

MP quits Centre Forward group as Thatcher comes under fire

Pym pours scorn on 'government by slogan'

By James Naughtie
Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Francis Pym last night launched his dissenting Conservative Centre Forward group with the accusation that the Prime Minister was leading a government sustained only by slogans.

He told an Oxford meeting that the group was not a gathering of doubters on the fringe but a mainstream effort to reclaim the Government for traditional Toryism.

"We do not feel dismayed," he said. His concern was to

new investment in both the public and the private sector.

This investment, he said, would not be inflationary if it was used on projects which could improve Britain's economic performance.

He rejected outright the notion that competitiveness had been improved by Mrs Thatcher's policies. Only Italy of the seven nations present at this month's Bonn economic summit had a worse record on unemployment and competitiveness than Britain.

Mr Pym said that recent developments could not be credibly presented as a sustained recovery. The intention of Centre Forward was to achieve the objectives which Mrs Thatcher had set at the beginning of her premiership, but had now manifestly failed to reach.

There is deep scepticism among Tory MPs about the likely success of the group. From Downing Street there has been a predictable derisive reaction and a more-or-less public challenge to Mr Pym to make manifest his dissatisfaction by a proper show of dissent in the Commons lobby.

Among mainstream Tories there is a natural reluctance to believe that a new phase of opposition to Mrs Thatcher has begun until it shows itself in direct challenge on specific policies.

The first test for the new group is likely to come when the green paper on Mr Pym's "Sovereign's speech" is reviewed in the Commons next month.

Child benefit, in particular, has always been one of the Tory's great causes and they will be expected to rally against any proposal to freeze or reduce its real value.

Mr Pym was at pains last night in his speech to the Oxford University Law Society to argue that he was a mainstream Conservative sharing much common ground with the Government. The argument was about means rather than ends.

But he challenged directly the claims which are at the heart of the government's response to its critics.

On the unemployment figure he said: "Tom King [the Employment Secretary] turns to back page, col. 4

Placing blame not my task, says judge

By Malcolm Pithers

MR Justice Popplewell, who is to head the inquiry into the Bradford fire disaster, walked among the ruins of the soccer club's stand yesterday, shaking his head seemingly in disbelief at what had happened.

The 57-year-old High Court judge, who was escorted around the Valley Parade ground by senior police, fire officers, and club officials,

Chairman stays silent, page 2. Another picture, back page.

paused by the many wreaths and flowers which had been placed near the turnstiles where many of the victims perished.

He said he was horrified by what he had seen of this "dreadful event". Moments before he arrived at the ground, in pouring rain people had walked to the club to lay the wreaths.

One vase placed on a charred turnstile carried the message: "To Richard and Robert Ormrod and their dad."

The world outside Bradford is also responding; the disaster appeal being run jointly by Bradford Council, the Telegraph and Argus evening paper, and Fenian Radio, is likely to exceed £200,000 by this morning. A London businessman yesterday sent



GRIM EVIDENCE: Mr Justice Popplewell (right) with Bradford City's chairman, Stafford Heginbotham and a police officer beside the ruined stand at Valley Parade.

an anonymous £20,000 donation. On the judge's tour yesterday there was still an acrid smell of burnt timber as he walked down on to the pitch to look at the spot in G section where the fire began last Saturday.

Later he told a press conference that he was in Bradford to familiarise himself with the club and talk to people concerned. It had not

been decided when the inquiry would start, but it would be public, and in Bradford.

He would look first at the immediate issue of what happened at Bradford and then at problems relating to all soccer grounds.

Mr Justice Popplewell said that the inquiry was to establish the facts and not to apportion blame and he

considered matters dealt with in letters sent to the club from various authorities.

It is thought that the judge will have an interim report ready by the start of the new season in August. Sitings are not likely to begin until the immediate police inquiry has been completed.

Mr John Domaille, West Yorkshire's assistant chief constable, said yesterday that

22 of the victims had been positively identified. Nineteen were male, including three children, and three female.

Names would be passed on to the coroner and would not be released.

Police are still trying to trace all those who had been sitting in the G section, in particular those in I to Q seats numbered 141 to 151.

Talks fail to resolve Geneva deadlock

From Hella Pick
in Vienna

A six-hour meeting between Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State and Mr Andrei Gromyko the Soviet Foreign Minister, has apparently failed yesterday to resolve the deadlock in the Geneva arms talks or to set a date for a US-Soviet summit.

Both sides described the talks as useful but, a Soviet spokesman, Mr Vladimir Lomeiko said that Mr Gromyko

Moscow commentary, page 21

had alleged that the United States had not respected the terms of reference for arms negotiations which had been agreed upon in Geneva in January.

Mr Lomeiko said: "One of the principal reasons for international tension is that certain circles were seeking to impose their will on other countries and involve themselves in their internal affairs. This is the cause of tension in Central America and the Middle East as well as in other parts of the world."

The spokesman said that only "strict respect" for the goals of preventing a race in space weapons and abolishing nuclear weapons on earth offer any prospect of progress.

Mr Shultz made a brief statement outside the Soviet embassy at the end of the talks. He confirmed that they had concentrated on the issues raised by the Geneva arms control talks, and that they had also gone over "bilateral issues where some progress can be made."

The Secretary of State confirmed that he had once again raised human rights issues, but Mr Lomeiko made clear that he had immediately rebuffed all references to Professor Sakharov and other human rights cases, stressing that the American interest was interpreted in Moscow as "intervention in internal affairs."

INSIDE

Arts, reviews	11
Business & finance	22-25
Classified advertising	4, 14-20
Crosswords	29, 30
Guardian Women	10
Home news	2-4, 30
Letters	12
Overseas news	6, 9
Politics	5
Sports news	25-27
TV & radio	28
ENTERTAINMENTS	28
PERSONAL	29

Tamil attack kills eighty

From Eric Silver in New
Delhi and Roland Ediningsh
in Colombo

Sri Lankan Tamil terrorists shot dead more than 80 men, women and children, including five Buddhist nuns, yesterday in a raid on the ancient Sinhalese capital of Anuradhapura. Another 100 were wounded.

It was the town's biggest and most provocative massacre of civilians, carrying their separatist campaign out of the traditional Tamil heartland of the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

The Government appealed to the Sinhalese majority in the south to retaliate against innocent Tamils, but the island's already fragile unity now faces its most severe test since the slaughter of 400 Tamils in July, 1983.

The assailants drove into Anuradhapura, the centre of Buddhist pilgrimage and capital of the North-Central Province, in two buses at about 8.30 am and sprayed the bus station with bullets for half an hour. A government spokesman in Colombo said that most of the victims were Sinhalese, the rest Muslims.

The gunmen, identified as belonging to the Liberation Tigers, the most active guerrilla group, then turned their fire on pilgrims praying at Sri Lanka's holiest Buddhist shrine, a 2,800-year-old tree grown from the tree under which Buddha achieved his enlightenment.

They drove south-west down the main road towards the fishing port of Puttalam, killing five game wardens in the Wilpattu National Park and wounding a police constable.

Official sources in Colombo condemned the massacre as "unparalleled in recent times". It was clearly calculated to inflict the maximum damage on the already slender prospects of a negotiated settlement to the conflict, touching the Sinhalese on their most sensitive spot: their feeling of defending "sacred" Buddhist against Hindu encroachment.

The various guerrilla groups have been threatening for some weeks to take the battle to the south. One of their leaders, K. Umashankaran, the secretary-general of the Marxist People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil, Eelam, has been in Delhi this week lobbying politicians, diplomats and journalists. The Indian Government is understood to have urged him not to extend the war to the predominantly Sinhalese areas.

President Junius Jayewardene's special envoy, Mr Esmond Wickremasinghe, is due to meet the Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in Delhi today. After Anuradhapura he is expected to press the Indians more urgently than ever to restrict the terrorists' freedom of operation from their bases in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

Notts rebel refuses to accept 'narrow' sacking verdict at NUM executive hearing

By Patrick Wintour
Labour Star

The sacking of the active general secretary of the Nottinghamshire miners, Mr Roy Lynk, was recommended yesterday by the national executive of the National Union of Mineworkers after a special disciplinary hearing.

The recommendation will be put to the union's annual conference in July. If accepted, Mr Lynk would then be suspended from office, pending three months' notice. Mr Lynk said last night that he did not accept yesterday's decision, and would continue as leader of the Nottinghamshire miners, regardless of the attitude of July's conference.

The dismissal requires a simple majority of conference, but the closeness of yesterday's executive vote suggests that it may not be achieved.

Mr Lynk claimed that there had been a majority of one to sack him, which could have been overturned if Mr Ray Chubb, president of the Nottinghamshire miners, had chosen to attend the hearings. Mr Lynk and the Notts area finance officer, Mr David

my position, one for the other. I shall be looking for the support of the Nottinghamshire miners. As I gave them support, I don't think they will let me down. Even now it's not our intention to leave the national union."

Although Mr Lynk's salary is technically paid by the national union, the Nottinghamshire area is an independent union with formidable financial resources and will have no difficulty in paying Mr Lynk. The national union refused to comment yesterday.

The 28,000 Nottinghamshire miners vote on May 27 for a new area official to replace Mr Henry Richardson, who was sacked as general secretary earlier this year. The successful candidate will join the three other area officials, including Mr Lynk and Mr Prendergast in a ballot for the new area general secretary. It

is expected that Mr Lynk will be chosen.

Although Mr Lynk's dismissal would exacerbate relations between Nottinghamshire and the national union it would not make a final split inevitable. The two sides, however, remain on collision course over their legal relationship.

An announcement is expected tomorrow that the majority of Nottinghamshire miners have voted in a secret ballot against accepting changes in the national union constitution which Nottinghamshire miners see as an attempt to centralise the union.

The Nottinghamshire area last December altered its own rules to become more independent of the national union. The national miners' union is seeking a court order banning the changes and the hearing is set for June 17.

Mayor promises to pay for new houses after siege blaze

From Alex Brummer
in Washington

The mayor of Philadelphia, Mr Wilson Goode, yesterday promised to rebuild 60 houses in a middle-class neighbourhood which were destroyed by an extremist environmental cult which went badly wrong.

"We believe we owe it to you to make you whole again," said Mr Goode, a previously popular black mayor, who was interviewed as a potential vice-presidential candidate last year. "We will rebuild these houses with city funds," he said.

The disaster occurred when the authorities, frustrated by a day-long siege of a house belonging to the extreme environmental cult known as MOVE, decided to burn out the remaining members of the group who had allegedly show-



Wilson Goode - city funds pledge

ered police with a barrage of bullets. Adopting a novel siege technique, the fire department dropped a concussion bomb on the barricaded house, setting off a fire which flattened 60

houses and ruined many more. Three bullet-riddled bodies were found in the wreckage yesterday. A and two slightly burnt members of the cult, Ramona Africa and a nine-year-old child, Bertie Africa, had previously emerged from the blaze. Police who continued their search through the rubble yesterday, thought there may be more dead.

Members of MOVE are fervent believers in natural living and all its members adopt the name of Africa. In 1978 the same extremist group became involved in a shoot-out with police in which one officer died and several were seriously injured. As a result, all residents were evacuated from the area when the police began their siege at dawn on Monday.

Neighbours, who had asked Turn to back page, col. 3

Nuclear isle evacuated

From Paul Brown
aboard Rainbow Warrior

Major, Marshall Islands

Greenpeace flagships, the Rainbow Warrior, leaves Majuro today to evacuate 260 islanders from the atoll of Rongelap, which has been dogged by radiation-linked tumours since American nuclear tests in the 1950s. The islanders' half of them children, will be collected with their houses, dug-out canoes and pigs, and taken 100 miles to an uninhabited island in the Kwajalein atoll.

The islanders approached Greenpeace to pay for a move on the grounds that it was unnecessary, although in 1973 they warily the islanders not to eat fish, coconuts or other fruit from the northern end of Rongelap because of radio-active contamination.

The islanders say that radiation-linked illnesses are common and that more than 65 per cent of the children under 10 at the time of the 1954 Bravo test at Bikini, 50 miles away, have had to have thyroid tumours removed. The islanders were moved three days

"We get hungry and have to eat and then children get ill. They never used to get heart trouble, blindness and so many cancers."

The Rongelap people will be taken to Ebodan, an island offered to them by the people of Kwajalein, the world's largest atoll, with 90 islands on a reef. Kwajalein is also the site of a US intercontinental missile testing range, with rockets fired from California into the lagoon. But Ebodan is at the opposite end of the atoll, and outside a US exclusion zone.

Mr Michael J. Senko, the US liaison officer for the Marshalls, said Congress had not been sympathetic to the islanders' request because "the move is probably unnecessary." He had no knowledge of a US government document published in 1979 showing high radiation levels.

Snowstorm in paradise, page 21

after the Bravo test but taken back to Rongelap three years later.

After the US Congress rejected several applications to arrange their removal, Senator Jettin Anjain, the islanders' representative in the Marshall Islands parliament, approached Greenpeace. "The United States have been lying to us from the beginning," he said.



Despite the odd hiccup the value of our investments has doubled in 5 years

You have to speculate to accumulate. So even Legal & General's experts very occasionally make a mistake. "Only 99% certain of getting it right..." as we say on TV. That's why the value of our investments has more than doubled over the last 5 years.

With Legal & General your money is in the safest of hands, for ours is an enviable performance. Now we'd like to share this success with you... with some FREE information on how to make the most of your money. If you can save regularly... £20... £30... or more a month... or you have a lump sum to invest, we can show you ways of making more of your money.

Just post the coupon. You don't even need a stamp. Or phone 01-200 0200, right away. The sooner you act, the sooner your money will be working for you.

RING 01-200 0200 OR POST TODAY

Post to: Legal & General Assurance Society Ltd, Freeport, Croydon CR9 9EB (no stamp needed). To like some free information on savings and investment as soon as possible, I'm interested in:

☐ Regular savings ☐ Lump sum investment (please tick) Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Telephone: _____ Name of usual financial adviser (if any) _____

Legal & General

NEWS IN BRIEF

Philips axes 550

PHILIPS yesterday announced the closure of its washing machine factory in Huddersfield, with the loss of 550 jobs. Sharp promised 150 jobs at its microwave oven plant in Wrexham, page 22.

£50m rates aid

A £50 million rates relief package for Scotland was announced yesterday by the Scottish Secretary, Mr George Younger, back page.

Dollar's slide

A RUN on a second bank in Maryland and talk of a recession in the US interest rates pushed the dollar down almost two cents against sterling yesterday, page 22.

Aircraft talks

A NEW attempt to persuade France to accept an equal partnership in the European Fighter Aircraft project will be made in Rome today, page 4.

Mortgage blow

HOPES of an early reduction of mortgage rates collapsed yesterday when the building societies announced an intake of £500 million in April, 1986, less than they needed to meet mortgage demand, page 22.

Shiner bailed

BUSINESSMAN Godfrey Shiner was freed on £100,000 bail in London yesterday after being accused of conspiring with Anthony Gills to pervert the course of justice, page 3.

The weather

SCATTERED showers. See table, back page.



"I shall only start to take Mr Pym's little group seriously when they start to complain that their phones are being tapped."

Low-key protest

THOUSANDS attended the funeral of a black South African trade union leader who died after police detention, but a call for a protest strike was largely ignored, page 9.

Police 'scandal'

COUNCIL spending cuts have resulted in a "scandalous" police manpower shortage, the Police Federation heard yesterday, page 4.

Father gaoled

A FATHER in Reading was gaoled for five years for drunkenly starting a fire which killed his four sons, page 3.

THE GUARDIAN IN EUROPE

Admission	25p	50p	100p
Subscription	£5.00	£10.00	£20.00
Foreign	£6.00	£12.00	£24.00
Postage	2.00p	4.00p	8.00p
Germany	3.50p	7.00p	14.00p

Secretary twice investigated grants for stand repair, while club had warning letters from council, police and fire brigade

Premier unready to move on aid

By Colin Brown
Political Staff

The Prime Minister refused yesterday to give any commitment about Government aid to the aftermath of the Bradford fire, either for the victims or for the football grounds which will be required to improve their safety standards.

Closely questioned by the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Neil Kinnock, during question time, about rumours that Bradford AFC did not have sufficient insurance cover to meet all the legitimate claims, Mrs. Thatcher said that the Government should allow the financial matters to be reviewed to see exactly how much was covered by insurance.

She pointed out that various disaster funds for the victims had been started.

Mrs Thatcher will be meeting Lord Aberdeen, chairman of the Football Trust, today to discuss the need for the 37 clubs who will be covered by the extension of the act covering safety at sports grounds to meet the cost of further work on terraces, stands, and gates.

The extension of the act after the fire was announced by the Home Secretary, Mr. Leon Brittan, on Monday. But Mrs Thatcher had previously arranged the meeting with Lord Aberdeen as part of her initiative in combating hooliganism.

Mrs Thatcher was also pressed by Mr Kinnock to make a commitment to provide further funds for the safety improvements which will be required in the third and fourth division grounds.

She replied: "I have been inquiring into the finances and I think it would be best if we made a thorough inquiry before we jump to any conclusions."

She said Lord Aberdeen was aware that the situation was complicated. About £7 million a year went to the trust from the Spot the Ball competitions and about half of that money went to football ground improvements.

She pointed out that in 1984 the trust had accumulated £3.3 million in its bank balance because of insufficient extra demand from league clubs for ground improvement. This money had been dispersed to the clubs who had made earlier requests for financial assistance.

Mr Kinnock said the inquiry by Mr Justice Popplewell into the 52 deaths at Bradford should not only be thorough but urgent because of the implications for crowd safety in other grounds.

By Malcolm Pithers

Bradford City Football Club officials refused yesterday to discuss discrepancies surrounding letters sent to the club pointing out areas of danger in the main stand.

The club chairman, Mr Stafford Heginbotham, said that neither he nor any members of the club would make any comment about the disaster until after they had given evidence at the forthcoming public inquiry.

It also became clear yesterday that the club first approached the Football Grounds Improvements Trust on October 17, 1983, about the condition of the main stand. The club secretary, Mr Terry Newman, wrote to the trust for guidance as to whether funds would be available to carry out repairs to the 77-year-old stand.

It is also clear now that West Yorkshire County Council, West Yorkshire Police and the local fire brigade all knew of the potential hazards and fire risks at the club from June, 1984.

After it received Mr Newman's letter the trust had a conversation with club officials in Bradford and also undertook to carry out a survey of the stand. It is not known if the club officials ever saw the surveyor's report, which is held by the trust.

West Yorkshire police also informed the club that the stand was dangerous. This information is contained in a letter sent to the club by a superintendent in West Yorkshire on June 27, 1984.

The Assistant Chief Constable, Mr John Domaille, who is leading the investigation into the fire, said yesterday that he could not at the moment release to the public the contents of the police letter.

All the correspondence about the state of the stand is expected to form an important part of the judge's investigation into the blaze. Mr Domaille did say, however, that if at all possible he will

release the letter. It is known that the police letter was signed by Superintendent P. Briggs, who is based in Bradford.

This is the sequence of events. A letter sent to the Football Trust asking for guidance on a grant. This letter was signed by Mr Terry Newman, the Bradford club secretary.

June 27, 1984. West Yorkshire police wrote to the club commenting upon the dangers of the stand.

July 4, 1984. A senior engineer from West Yorkshire County Council visited the ground and made an inspection report.

July 11, 1984. Mr Joe Sims, head of the Bradford fire department, wrote to Mr Newman and informed him that the existing felt roof covering and the steel structure of the stand created an unacceptable crowd safety hazard and should be rectified as soon as possible.

July 15, 1984. Mr Sims again wrote to the club secretary, telling him he was pleased to enclose a letter which might assist him in obtaining a grant from the Football Trust towards the cost of recovering the main stand roof. He listed the main dangers in the main grandstand, in particular the build-up of combustible materials in voids beneath the seats. He wrote: "A carelessly discarded cigarette could give rise to a fire risk."

August 3, 1984. Another letter was sent to the trust by Mr Newman, requesting grant aid. With this letter went copies of the letters from West Yorkshire police and in particular the letter from Mr Sims of July 11.

January 3, 1985. The trust approved a 60 per cent grant for the club.

In March this year the club purchased steel to replace the main stand at the club. No work was started, however, because the club did not want

scaffolding to interfere with this season's matches.

Mr Heginbotham said yesterday: "I have nothing further to say. I will make no comment because there is to be a public inquiry."

Mr Newman, the club secretary, ignored all questions put to him by journalists as he emerged from the club yesterday. His wife has moved from their home in Heaton, Bradford, after being besieged by journalists.

Earlier this week, Mr Heginbotham said that any letters which had been sent to the club during the period after June 1983 when the club passed into the hands of an Official Receiver, might have gone to the Receiver.

This was Mr Peter Fletcher, a partner in a firm of chartered accountants, Thornton Baker in Bradford. However, Mr Fletcher said yesterday that as far as he was concerned the letters had not been sent to him or been seen by him.

Last night Mr Gordon Moore, the chief executive of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, confirmed that although the council had seen copies of the letters sent by the club on July 11 and July 15, 1984, no action had been taken.

"We were in no way responsible for safety in the ground. With the benefit of hindsight it is unfortunate that we did not press for the county council to take up follow-up action done in the light of their report," he said.

● In the headline on page one yesterday morning, "Wimbledon and Oval on 'risk list'", that Wimbledon tennis or Oval cricket stands were unsafe but that they would not be subject to checks by fire officers, Wimbledon has asked us to point out that considerable time and money have been spent ensuring that the highest safety standards are met.

MP makes his peace with Falkland critics

From John Eard
in Port Stanley

A first frail bridge was built between Labour's left wing and the Falklands yesterday when the party's spokesman, Mr George Foulkes, survived a 90-minute discussion breakfast with 12 island representatives "without being jumped on and beaten to pulp" as one relieved local said afterwards.

The meeting was the first systematic talk with any ranking Labour politician since before the 1982 conflict. Earlier, at a luncheon during the British VIP visit to celebrate the opening of the £276 million Falklands airport, Mr Foulkes had been involved in heated argument with a sheep farmer's wife.

But yesterday he earned considerable respect for his reasonable manner and readiness to listen and argue as he outlined what he believed would be the next Labour government's policy.

The discussion and the visit in general were also notable for signs of increasing confidence in the Falklands that any future non-conservative government would find it electorally difficult to "sell out" or brusquely disengage from the South Atlantic commitment, even if this continues to cost £400-£500 million a year into the late 1990s.

Mr Foulkes said bluntly that Labour was in favour of talks with Argentina on sovereignty. "But the interests and wishes" of the islanders would be taken fully into account and they would be partners at the negotiating table. No

unsatisfactory solution would be accepted.

One of the younger men present, Mr Stuart Wallace, a former councillor who was interviewed with his wife and children by Argentina during the conflict, said afterwards that he had taken the view that "we have a right of self-determination and we should not exercise it totally selfishly. I believe ultimately that there will be compromise with Argentina."

He proved to be a small minority, however. An older councillor, Mr Bill Lutton, who was deported to Britain during the conflict, replied: "I do not think Argentina will ever be prepared to compromise on sovereignty."

There was a much closer meeting of minds on the topic of developing the Falklands. Mr Foulkes said afterwards that the councillors had "important and valid" worries.

His earlier reputation as a callous leftwinger dominated the public meeting on Monday night in Port Stanley, although any he was unable to attend. The grassroots rally for 142 people, nearly half the town's able-bodied electorate, was one of the largest meetings for some years.

But this session, too, was marked by a strengthened confidence in the British commitment. Most questions were about the government's failure to declare a 150-mile fishing limit to conserve local resources and produce revenue to offset the garrison costs.

Politics, page 5

Widow banned for 2 years for 8-mile drive on flat tyre

MRS Ethel Beardsworth, aged 78, an air vice-marshal's widow, who drove for eight miles on a flat tyre with the car radio turned up to drown the noise, appeared before Chertsey magistrates yesterday nursing a broken wrist caused by a fall from her bicycle while her car was in for repair.

She was banned from driving for two years and fined a total of £325 after the court heard how twice within 12 days she caused havoc on the highways.

On the first occasion she drove in the wrong direction down a dual carriageway on the busy A3 at Wisley, Surrey, oblivious of the chaos around her. Then, less than two weeks later, she drove on three wheels through the streets of Chobham and Addlestone in Surrey after a front tyre burst.

Mrs Beardsworth, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, who told police that she passed her advanced driver's test only two years ago, pleaded guilty to two charges of driving without due care and attention, using a motor car in a dangerous condition, and driving with defective equipment.

Police Sergeant Stephen Buckle said that Mrs Beardsworth was spotted driving south in the fastlane of the northbound carriageway of the A3 at 45mph on April 15.

"Many drivers had to take drastic action to avoid collision. Cars were left all over the road. It would appear that the driver of the car was oblivious to what was wrong," he said.

Police were only able to stop her by getting on to the carriageway and driving in the wrong direction themselves. When stopped Mrs Beardsworth denied that she was driving in the wrong direction.

Sgt Buckle said that 12 days later Mrs Beardsworth steered into the kerb and burst a tyre after she was overtaken by two cars in Chobham. "She heard the noise but turned the radio on because she wanted to get home," he said.

Large pieces of tyre started to disintegrate and fall off and before long she was driving on the metal rim of the wheel. When a man spoke to her at traffic lights, "she just replied that she was going shopping. In the interests of safety he removed her ignition keys."

By that time the wheel and the front bumper of car were missing, the front wing was dented and hanging off, and there were numerous scratches and dents in the bodywork.

Magistrates ordered that she must take another driving test before being allowed out behind the wheel alone again.



Ethel Beardsworth: broke wrist in bicycle fall

Talks on teachers' pay seem destined to fail

By Andrew Moncur

The prospect of today's talks settling the teachers' pay dispute is remote, judging by the gloom in both camps yesterday.

The dispute seems likely to drag into the summer—and hopes are fading of a deal linked to salary structure reform in time for April, 1986.

"If we don't reach agreement this dispute will not come to an end until September at the earliest, by which time there will be no time to reach an accord on structure," a spokesman for the employers' side said yesterday.

The meeting of the Burnham pay negotiating committee—the first formal talks between union leaders and management representatives for three months—takes place with no negotiable prospect of bridging the gap between the two sides.

The teachers are demanding a minimum rise of £1,200 which amounts to nearly 12.5 per cent.

The employers seem unable to make sufficient improvement on their offer of 4 per cent to win agreement, with the unions refusing to accept a salary cut in real terms, said Leaders of the local authorities.

DIY led to death blast

A Roman Catholic priest and his housekeeper died in a huge explosion minutes after a DIY handyman had mistakenly hacked through a gaspipe, an inquest at Coventry heard yesterday.

Mr Robert Scott—who left the hearing in tears—had allegedly been told by the priest that it was a disused oil central heating pipe, the deputy coroner, Mr David Collins, heard.

The Director of Public Prosecutions has decided that no criminal proceedings should be taken against Mr Scott.

The "colossal" blast almost totally demolished the Victorian presbytery, adjacent to St Mary's Church in Coventry. The bodies of Father Connell Harbin, aged 55, and Mrs Nora Woods, 68, were found beneath the rubble. They were killed instantly, the inquest heard, and Mr Collins recorded verdicts of accidental death.

He said there was no evidence of gross negligence or incompetence showing such disregard for other people's lives or safety justify verdicts of unlawful killing.

Mr Scott had earlier refused to give evidence, telling the hearing: "I don't want to say anything." He would not speak to waiting journalists when he left.

The coroner was told that he had carried out various odd jobs for Father Harbin, who had asked him several times to remove an old oil tank. Interviewed by police, he had said: "The father told me it was an oil pipe. I asked him if it was all right, and he said he was sure."

A forensic scientist, Mr Roger Ide, said the cut pipe would have released about 2,000 cubic ft of natural gas per hour into the presbytery's cellar. He thought it was probably ignited by a pilot light on a boiler.

Corporal 'incapable' of murders

A soldier mentioned in despatches while serving in Northern Ireland yesterday denied shooting three soldiers in a payroll robbery.

Corporal Andrew Walker, aged 31, told the High Court in Edinburgh that he believed the killings were the work of a terrorist organisation. "There is no way I would have had the capability of shooting three people, cold bloodedly, in the head," he said.

The corporal denies murder and robbery and has launched a special defence of alibi. It is alleged that he shot retired Major David Cunningham, Staff Sergeant Terence Mosker, and Private John Thomson, on January 17 somewhere between Penicuik and "Flatterstone Glen, near Edinburgh."

On the tenth day of the trial he answered questions by Mr Donald Macaulay, defending.

Corporal Walker, a small arms instructor, said he had been on five tours of duty in Northern Ireland and enjoyed army life.

He admitted that while in prison, he wrote to his young brother saying that the killings were the work of the Scottish cell of the Provisional IRA.

"I felt when I was arrested for this crime that the police just wanted anybody. They didn't give a damn who they got and because of the public outrage over it, the sooner they got somebody the better," he said.

Corporal Walker also claimed that he was subjected to a "Gestapo-like" police interrogation on the day of the murders.

He agreed that he had given the letter to a fellow prisoner who was due to leave the gaol, but claimed that earlier evidence by the prisoner, William Lowden, aged 18, was a "complete fabrication. The corporal said he had never threatened to kill Lowden and his girlfriend if details of their discussions in gaol were disclosed.

He described a transcript allegedly taken during his police interview as " rubbish." Corporal Walker also denies attempting to pervert the course of justice by trying to smuggle a letter out of prison claiming that the killings were the work of the IRA.

The trial continues today.

Miners 'cool, calm and calculated' in dropping concrete on passing taxi

By Paul Hoyland

Two miners accused of murdering a taxi driver during the coal strike were "cool, calm, calculated and skilful" when they aimed a concrete post and block from a bridge at a police convoy, Cardiff crown court was told yesterday.

Mr Martin Thomas, QC prosecuting, said Russell Shunkland only just missed a direct hit on the taxi with the 60lb post but Dean Hancock hit the target with the 160lb block, killing Mr David Wilkie, aged 35.

The taxi veered into an embankment.

"All the remorse and tears and expressions of regret in the world is that pity for David Wilkie and his family. It is thoughts of the consequences to themselves?" Mr Thomas asked the jury.

In his closing speech he said the evidence established beyond a doubt that the two miners "deliberately and with a full appreciation of the consequences" propelled the concrete at the taxi carrying a working pitman, Mr David Williams, to Mertry Vale colliery.

Hancock and Shunkland, both aged 21, of Rhymney, Mid-Glamorgan, have denied murder. It matters not that it was the concrete block rather than the post that killed David Wilkie, Mr Thomas said. They were acting together in pursuance of the common design.

A third miner, Anthony Williams, aged 26, of Rhymney, who has been cleared of murder on the direction of the judge, faces two charges of conspiring to damage the taxi.

Mr Thomas said Williams had told the police: "We were going to make our presence felt and cause a disturbance. We were going to interrupt the convoy."

In his closing speech Mr Gareth Williams, QC, defending Hancock, urged the jury to return a verdict of manslaughter on his client. The said thing about the miners' strike was that the powerful benefit from the unknown suffer and pay, whether it is David Wilkie, David Williams in the back of the cab, or Dean Hancock here."

The cases continue today.

who has been cleared of murder on the direction of the judge, faces two charges of conspiring to damage the taxi.

Mr Thomas said Williams had told the police: "We were going to make our presence felt and cause a disturbance. We were going to interrupt the convoy."

In his closing speech Mr Gareth Williams, QC, defending Hancock, urged the jury to return a verdict of manslaughter on his client. The said thing about the miners' strike was that the powerful benefit from the unknown suffer and pay, whether it is David Wilkie, David Williams in the back of the cab, or Dean Hancock here."

The cases continue today.

The proposals will now affect benefit payments for those who have decided to return home and live with their parents.

Mr Brown said that the cuts would mean they could lose up to £2.5 a week in benefits and in meeting 20 per cent of their rate bills and their entire water rates bills.

"These new poor laws are the Prime Minister's Victorian values with a vengeance, condemning millions to poverty from the cradle to the grave," he said. "The poverty line is now a few pence above destitution and the national minimum a few calories above starvation."

Earlier delegates had voted by a majority of 7,313 to 684 in favour of a merger with the Civil and Public Services Association, to form a joint union with about 230,000 members.

However, the CPSA is deeply divided on the merger proposals and may reject them at its conference today, when the executive seeks authority to put the terms to a referendum of the membership.

Under the Government's guidelines, any public servant

who is a member of or who sympathises with any group whose aims, in the view of ministers, are "to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy by political, industrial or violent means" could be considered subversive.

Earlier delegates had voted by a majority of 7,313 to 684 in favour of a merger with the Civil and Public Services Association, to form a joint union with about 230,000 members.

However, the CPSA is deeply divided on the merger proposals and may reject them at its conference today, when the executive seeks authority to put the terms to a referendum of the membership.

Under the Government's guidelines, any public servant

who is a member of or who sympathises with any group whose aims, in the view of ministers, are "to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy by political, industrial or violent means" could be considered subversive.

Earlier delegates had voted by a majority of 7,313 to 684 in favour of a merger with the Civil and Public Services Association, to form a joint union with about 230,000 members.

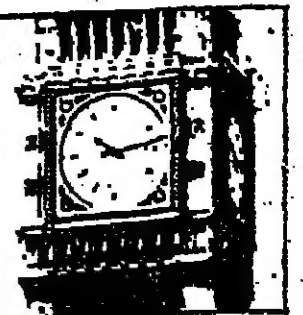
However, the CPSA is deeply divided on the merger proposals and may reject them at its conference today, when the executive seeks authority to put the terms to a referendum of the membership.

Under the Government's guidelines, any public servant

who is a member of or who sympathises with any group whose aims, in the view of ministers, are "to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy by political, industrial or violent means" could be considered subversive.

Earlier delegates had voted by a majority of 7,313 to 684 in favour of a merger with the Civil and Public Services Association, to form a joint union with about 230,000 members.

However, the CPSA is deeply divided on the merger proposals and may reject them at its conference today, when the executive seeks authority to put the terms to a referendum of the membership.



David McKie

Language of politics gets new concept

WHATEVER eventually becomes of the Local Government Bill, it has already given a new constitutional concept of the language: the concept of the nibbling amendment.

Wrecking amendments are familiar enough: they are devices ostensibly fashioned to improve a bill which in fact would shoot away essential parts of it. Throughout the Lords committee stage on the Local Government Bill, government supporters have accused the opposition of exactly these tactics.

The rule, it is alleged, is to push through a string of amendments, none of them exactly a wreck on its own but cumulatively designed to destroy the Government's training strategy of the bill — a strategy endorsed, the Government likes to add, at all stages in the Commons and on second reading in the Lords, not to mention at the general election.

Yesterday the Lords were dealing with further amendments designed, the Government said, to achieve ultimate wreckage through a process of steady nibbling. This time they dealt with the arts and recreation, one for post-GLC London, the other for the great English cities after the "mets" have gone.

Again yesterday we had the new routine mechanism in which the traditional roles of the parties are bizarrely reversed, the Conservatives bawling on about the supremacy of the elected Commons, Labour reserving the right of the Lords to make such changes as it deems necessary in the national interest (especially on a bill which has been guillotined).

Indeed, the Conservative peer, Lord Harmer-Nicholls, rambled on so long about the superior might of the Commons that the whole place grew restive.

Politics, page 5

As he embarked for the second time on a metaphor about people who thought you could order a dog to lie on its back and wag its tail, Lord Somers, from the Labour benches, issued the year's best put-down. "There is," he gravely intoned, "another command you can give to a dog. It is 'Sit'."

The main focus on the opposition side was that the arts and recreation might not, under the Government's dispensations, be going to good homes. London's South Bank complex, for example, would from now on be dependent on Arts Council generosity: alone, at a time when the council's emphasis was swinging to the regions.

Then there were the boroughs, who would inherit most of the dole and council responsibilities. Lord Birkett, who as the GLC's director of recreation and arts declared an outside interest, saw the boroughs as a very mixed bag. He would entrust any park in the land to Newham, but there were some London boroughs (no names) to which he would hesitate to turn over a cabbage patch.

What would happen, too, to places like Hampstead Heath, which fell within three authorities? Lord Birkett, who as the GLC's director of recreation and arts declared an outside interest, saw the boroughs as a very mixed bag. He would entrust any park in the land to Newham, but there were some London boroughs (no names) to which he would hesitate to turn over a cabbage patch.

As for Lord Gower's promised financial transfusion to offset the lost metro transit patronage, linked to his optimistic assumption that the boroughs would be freed from GLC and metropolitan county precepts, were likely to be in overflowing mode, the general response seemed to be: "we'll believe that when we see it."

It was Lord Boyd-Carpenter, so often the Government's hatchman on this bill, who bet allayed suspicions. Surely the minister would be ready to come to the aid of arts and recreation if his optimism proved misplaced? Lord Gower would indeed. It could have been a crucial ingredient in the Government's subsequent majority.

As Lord Birkett argued with gentle passion for the saving of new parks now taking shape in Southwark and Tower Hamlets, which might be threatened should strategic planning go, one recalled chamber of his father, two days before he died, who saved Ulswater from Manchester's rapacious intentions in 1962. Not that this speech was in that class: but in lyrical way it was still a very considerable treat.

Council's default on grants let down thousands

By David Rose

An administrative failure which caused severe hardship to nearly 3,000 people should lead to fundamental changes in the operation of Bristol City Council, according to a report due to be discussed by the council next week.

Mr Andrew Arden, a barrister and housing expert, prepared the report on the causes of a state of near chaos in Bristol's housing department last year. At the beginning of April the council had already made promises to citizens of housing improvement grants totalling more than £11 million.

Yet in the council's budget for that year only £5 million, later increased to £6 million, was provided for this purpose. By August it was clear that many people who had already begun improvement work on their houses and had spent large sums in the expectation of grants would not be getting them.

Mr Arden defends the hard-hitting nature of the report by saying: "The same points have been made time after time by others, only to find that, shortly before this inquiry, 2,757 people were left in the lurch, and that — improperly and in my view illegally — Bristol had, not for the first time, defaulted on its debts to members of its population."

The council took legal advice on whether it could help those affected with bridging loans and interest payments and decided that it could not. This advice, according to Mr Arden, was wrong, and would not have stood up to inspection by the courts.

Two years earlier the local government ombudsman had come to very similar conclusions about the lack of control or information flow at Bristol, but his advice was ignored. Mr Arden writes: "Bristol have a tradition of failure to learn — instead they have bounced from crisis to crisis."

For three consecutive years application forms to the Government for grant aid with the housing improvement programme were filled in incorrectly, greatly exacerbating future difficulties. Often, according to the report, "consideration of both policies and individual decisions shows negligible signs of legality, or even of adherence to the council's own standing orders."

Members were not involved properly in decision-making, and there was no proper apportionment of responsibility. "There has been an absence of a coherent and comprehensive system for handling information, ensuring that issues are methodically dealt with rather than haphazardly and that clear lines of responsibility are drawn."

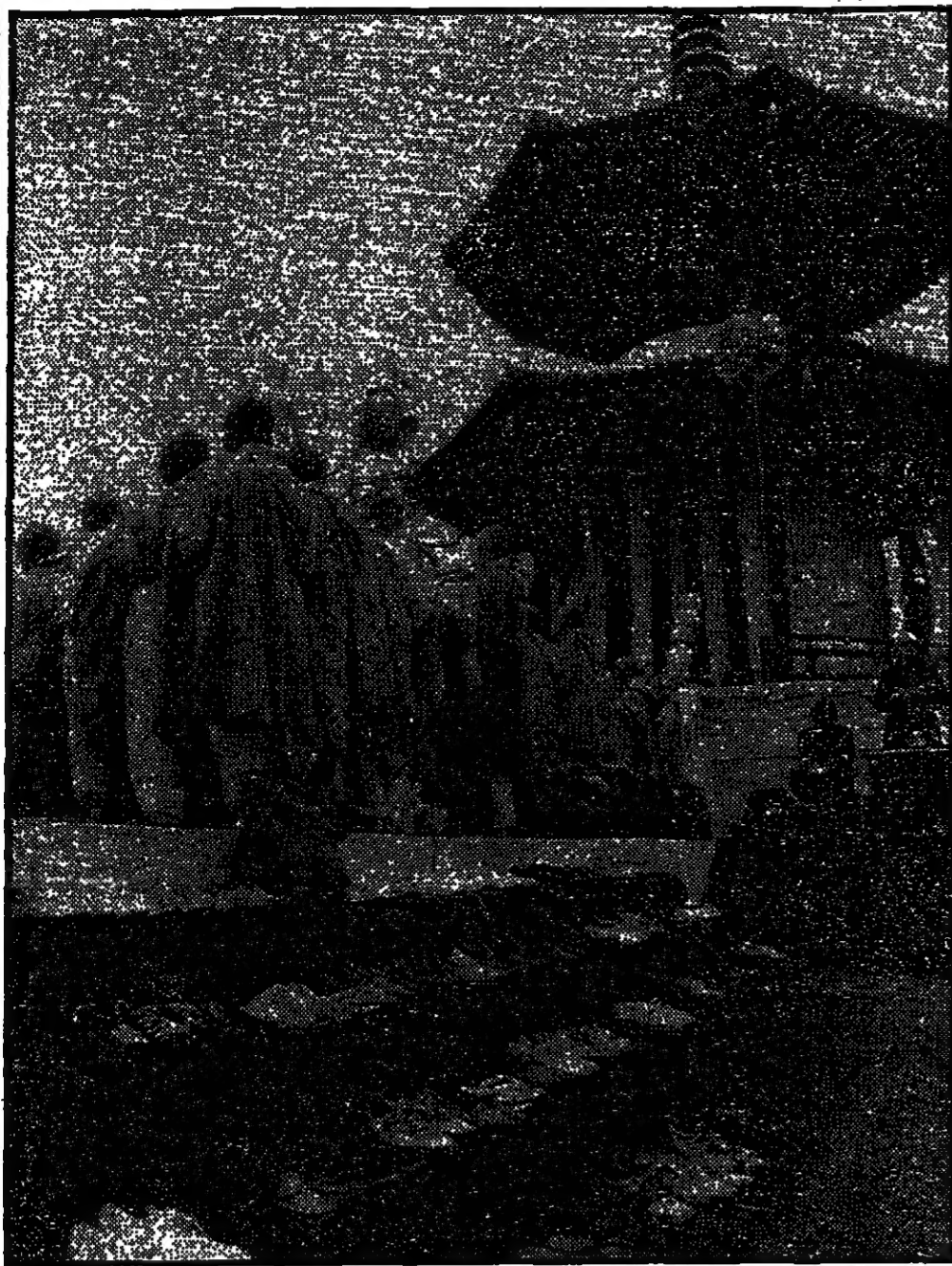
Bristol, writes Mr Arden, is third in the national league table for provincial councils in the number of findings of maladministration by the ombudsman — and the first two authorities are both larger.

The "deep roots" of this crisis, he finds, are in the lack of a corporate system of management. The organisation of the council as a whole is to blame, rather than any individual or department.

Mr Arden recommends the establishment of a new chief executive's department to co-ordinate the council's many functions.

Bristol is a hung council controlled by a Labour-Liberal coalition.

Leaders of the three parties have given the report a cautious welcome. Mr Bob Wall, the Tory leader, said that it should be taken very seriously and its recommendations should be implemented. Mr Robin Howell, the Liberal leader, said that it was a "catalyst" which should lead to "fundamental changes."



HAVEN OF TRANQUILITY: Bishop Trevor Huddleston (above right) presides at the opening of the London peace pagoda in Battersea Park on a day of celebration for the Buddhist monks (below) of the order led by Nichidatsu Fujii. Pictures by Garry Weaser



Children killed in arson attack by drunken father

By a Correspondent

Four children died when their father set fire to their home in a drunken rage after drinking 18 pints of Guinness and 10 brandies, Winchester crown court heard yesterday.

The court cannot really punish you as severely as you have already punished yourself, the judge told 36-year-old Patrick Lawlor. "You are going to have to live with this."

He had denied four counts of murder but pleas of guilty to manslaughter were accepted by the prosecution. Lawlor also admitted a charge of arson and was gaoled for a total of five years.

He had lived with his common-law wife, Susan Geary, for 10 years and the couple had five children. Stephen, seven, six-year-old twins Gary and Patrick, three, and a 19-month-old daughter Kelly. The family lived in a council house in Alston Walk, Caversham, Reading.

Mr William Denny, QC, prosecuting, said: "He habitually drank heavily and when he could not hold his liquor he assaulted and threatened his wife."

On the night of the fire Lawlor returned home from drinking 18 pints of Guinness and 10 brandies, Winchester crown court heard yesterday.

He went into a fit of rage and told his wife to move their eldest son into the bedroom with the other boys. He gathered a pile of newspapers to start a fire. The mother took her daughter and rushed from the house as the flames spread.

Mr Denny said that she was beaten back by the heat in a vain attempt to fight the blaze. Firemen later found the charred bodies of the boys in the back bedroom.

Lawlor was discovered lying on a porch outside, having apparently plunged through an upstairs window. He had suffered serious burns and other injuries.

Mr John Archer, defending, told Mr Justice Bristow that the father was "drunk out of his mind."

Murk and drizzle bring rare birds to Britain

By Martin Walwright

Anyone who thinks he saw a blue robin this week has no need to call down on alcohol or consult a doctor. The miserable weather has brought a bonus for bird-watchers in the form of the rare migratory bluet.

Apparently deluded by the murk into thinking that they must be in Norway, the small robin-like birds have appeared in unprecedented numbers on the east coast. The Falk Islands bird observatory, which usually records a handful of bluetbreasts in early May, counted a record 70 earlier this week.

North-easterly winds are thought to have diverted the birds, which have blue instead of red below their bills, off their annual migratory route from the Sahara to Scandinavia. Overcast weather may also have wrecked their ability to navigate which is thought to involve checks on the position of the sun and stars.

Rare bird enthusiasts have quickly caught up with the main bluetbreast concentrations. Mr James Potts and his wife Edith, whose terrace house overlooks Hartlepool harbour, Cleveland, played host to one group after a bluetbreast took up residence in their back garden.

My husband shouted to a crowd of birdwatchers to come and have a look and within seconds we had at least a dozen in our back garden," said Mrs Potts.

Unless the dreary weather persists the bluetbreasts are unlikely to spend much time in Britain, where only one unsuccessful attempt at nesting has been recorded — in Speyside, Scotland, in 1968.

Birdwatchers who were out in Hartlepool at 7 am yesterday were rewarded by other rare migrants, including a thrush nightingale and a Siberian stonechat.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds also reported sightings of wrynecks, ortolan buntings and a collared flycatcher, all diverted to East Anglia from their migratory routes to Scandinavia or northern Russia.

On the debit side, after the prolonged cold spells in January and February, few Cetti's warblers are to be seen. The bird, one of only two warblers which spend the whole year in Britain, has been particularly badly affected in Suffolk and Kent.

Tax exile 'helped Gadhafi relative flee trial'

Briton bailed amid fears of Libyan 'retribution'

By a Correspondent

A British tax exile, Godfrey Shiner, was freed on £100,000 bail in London yesterday, despite police fears that he would be in danger of "Libyan retribution."

Mr Shiner, aged 47, was arrested at Heathrow on Monday and appeared at Horseferry Road magistrates' court after being deported from Egypt, where he had been detained in connection with an alleged plot to assassinate a former Libyan premier and leading opponent of Colonel Gadhafi.

An Anti-Terrorist Squad detective, objecting to bail, said he feared that Shiner would abscond and added: "I feel he should be kept in custody for his own protection."

Mr Shiner was arrested with a fellow businessman in Cairo six months ago, and Det. Chief Inspector Angus McIntosh said: "The nature of these reports has led me to believe that he himself might be at some risk from Libyan retribution."

"I base this on an incident in London last August when a Libyan on bail for offences relating to illegal activities in relation to the Libyan Government was found murdered."



Godfrey Shiner: arrested at airport

The dead man, a wealthy Libyan businessman, had been bailed on charges of conspiracy to plant bombs when he was shot in his West End flat.

Mr Shiner, a company director from Warwickshire, is charged with conspiring with Anthony Gill to pervert the course of justice by assisting Mohammed Shabli to evade trial.

Reporting restrictions were lifted. The police allege that Shiner funded Shabli's escape to Libya in a private aircraft on August 2, six days before his planned trial at Croydon Crown Court on charges of possessing cannabis and cocaine.

Shiner allegedly gave Shabli between £5,000 and £7,000 and paid £7,000 into an account to cover expenses for the unlawful departure.

When Mr Shiner was interviewed by British police in Cairo before the Egyptians released him on £52,000 bail three months ago, he reported said that he had given or lent the money to Mr Shabli to pay for a lawyer in the drugs trial.

Mr Fred Philpott, defending, said Mr Shiner had maintained his innocence.

"At the end of the day, it is for the defendant to say whether he feels he needs protection, not the police," said Mr Philpott.

Mr Shiner was remanded until June 12 on bail with two sureties of £20,000 each, and on condition that he surrender his two re-ports to police and deposit £40,000 in cash at the court.

He was also ordered to report nightly to police and to live at an address in Warwickshire.

On Monday, Anthony Gill, aged 49, from Colchester, was remanded in custody until May 21 on the same charge.

All-party group launches coal and jobs campaign

By John Terebe

The second all-party pressure group in a fortnight to challenge government economic policies will be launched today amid warnings of a further massive collapse of employment in pit areas.

The founding committee of the Coalfield Communities Campaign (CCC) has received a formal message of support from the Earl of Stockton and among its sponsors are the Conservative peer Viscount Caldecote, former Labour prime minister James Callaghan and Mrs Barbara Castle.

At its launch in Central Hall, Westminster, the CCC will warn that 80 pits are likely to close by March 1988 with a loss of 108,000 jobs. These figures — based on research already received from the University of Bradford — are even more alarmist than those produced by Mr Arthur Scargill.

The all-party group will demand more government investment in coal, EEC aid for the stricken areas, and an end to the Coal Board's accountancy-

based approach to marginal pits.

CCC patrons include Lord Ezra, the former chairman of the National Coal Board; Lord Gormley, past president of the miners' union; and Baroness Burton of Coventry, who was until recently chairman of the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council.

A campaign is funded by 54 local authorities throughout the nation's coalfields.

It aims to challenge Mr Ian MacGregor's definition of "uneconomic" pits, demand a substantial increase in public funds to provide alternative jobs where pits have to close, and force the Government to use social as well as economic criteria when deciding the future of the industry.

In addition, the campaign wants an EEC initiative to channel European aid to the coalfield communities, in part to overcome environmental problems.

It will also be pressing Mrs Thatcher for a white paper committing the Government to heavy reliance on coal within a clearly defined energy policy.

Journalists defy union

By Patrick Wintour, Labour Staff

Journalists at the Kent Messenger Group have voted to continue working on newspapers being set and printed at Mr Eddie Shah's Warrington printing centre. The decision is a blow to 140 National Graphical Association members, who have been sacked by management for refusing to cooperate with the introduction of computerised equipment. NUJ official policy is to boycott Mr Shah and an NUJ national executive will have to consider its response to the chapel's attitude at a meeting on Friday.

Although the NUJ chapel voted by 35 to 25 to deplore the use of Mr Shah's press, it said it would only consider industrial action in a fortnight's time if Mr Shah's plant was still being used. The chapel rejected by 39 to 19 a motion committing the chapel to abide by any instruction from the NUJ national executive not to cross NGA picket lines.

The NGA national leadership is believed to be seeking a joint approach with the NUJ to the Kent Messenger dispute.

Church doubts the case for Sunday shopping

By Mervyn Halls, Churches Correspondent

The churches' case against Sunday trading has been sent to all MPs in advance of the Commons debate on the Auld Report, which proposed the abandonment of trading hours restrictions.

A joint submission from the British Council of Churches representing 27 Protestant denominations, and the Free Church Federal Council, said there was a serious conflict between the evidence presented by committee members and the conclusions they reached.

"Nowhere do they make out a compelling case for the radical change they suggest," said the churches' submission. "We do not believe that a respon-

sible government can act on such recommendations nor encourage others to pursue them."

The churches favour amending the 1969 Shops Act "with-out radically changing the principle that most shops will close on Sundays." They argue that evidence in the report about the demand for Sunday trading and the right of shopworkers was insubstantial.

The report relied too greatly on the argument of market freedom and gave insufficient attention to overall community needs, said that the churches. The Board for Social Responsibility of the General Synod of the Church of England yesterday forecast resolute opposition from the churches to the Auld committee proposals.

Battle for school lost

By Susan Tibbitt

A group of educationists and parents campaigning against the closure of single sex state schools failed to convince a High Court judge yesterday that closing a boys' school would be unlawful under the Sex Discrimination Act.

The Parental Alliance for Choice in Education, whose founder members included Baroness Cox and Dr John Marks, were challenging the legal right of Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, and Avon education authority to close a boys' secondary school on a south Bristol council estate while keeping open the neighbouring girls' secondary school.

Mr David Pannick, the group's counsel, said that closing "Merrymood boys' school would be unlawful because the boys would be treated less favourably than the girls on the grounds of their sex."

Mr Justice Kennedy, refusing the application, said that a section of the Sex Discrimination Act had been introduced to prevent single sex schools from being regarded as discriminatory.

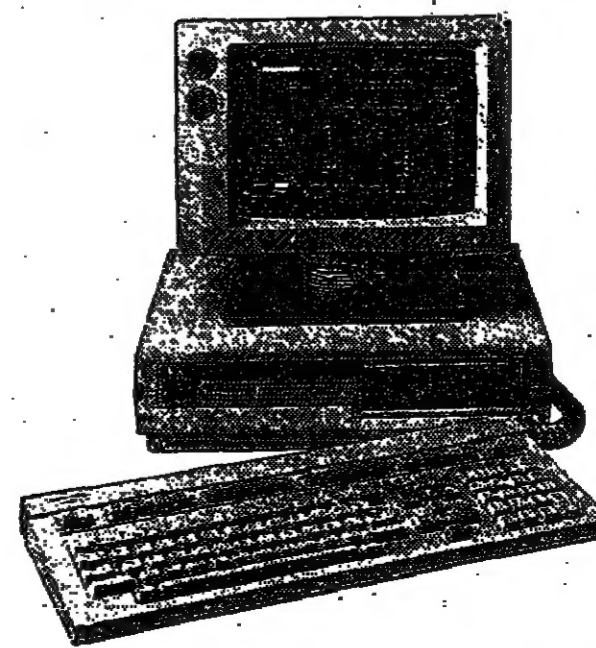
Mr Fred Naylor, the group's honorary secretary, said that an appeal was being considered.



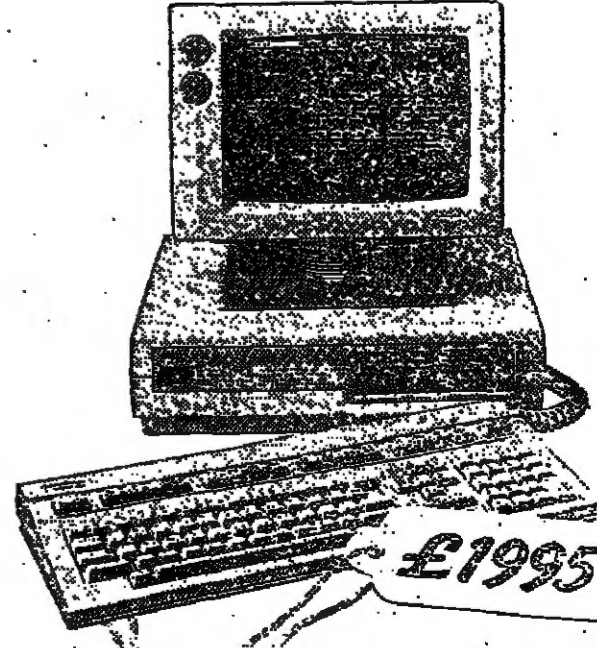
A word processor?



A typewriter?



A computer?



Or a miracle?

The Wang Office Assistant is the answer to every secretary's prayers. Yet at £1,995, it should also come as quite a relief to bosses. For that you'll get a word processor that doubles as a typewriter (ask your secretary how useful that is for doing forms and envelopes as well as lengthy documents).

You'll also get a computer. Marvellous for sales forecasts, stock inventory, profit projection and helping your secretary do your expenses. And you'll get a machine that can be operated by anyone who can type. Who said the age of miracles was past!

WANG

To: Jane Headly, Wang (UK) Limited, Wang House, 201 London Road, 15-crowth, Middlesex TW7 4EH. Telephone 01-860 4151. Telex 895 4121. Please send me full details on the Wang Office Assistant - The first assistant for secretaries.

Name _____ Position _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ Tel. No. _____

The first assistant for secretaries.

ATELEPHONE IN YOUR CAR FOR AROUND £2 A DAY

FOR DETAILS RING 01-200 0200

GRANADA TELEPHONE

GRANADA MOBILE TELEPHONES

A division of Granada TV Group

Pair of front runners for CND post

By Seumas Milne

Two candidates are emerging as front runners in the contest to replace Mr Bruce Kent as general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament when he steps down to an honorary vice-presidency in July.

Mr Ken Beresford and Mr Sean Sinclair are among five short-listed for interview next Sunday. A quick decision is expected and the choice will be a pointer to CND's future direction.

Mr Beresford is a CND vice-chairman and the former organising secretary of European Nuclear Disarmament (END). Now unemployed, he has taught part-time at Warwick University.

CND had some difficulty attracting applicants after its executive decided that the general secretary should continue to be paid the campaign's flat rate London salary of £7,932 a year.

Eleven people applied for Mr Kent's job. Under his general secretaryship, CND's national membership has increased from 9,000 in 1980 to 111,000 this year. Of the 11,000 members included, the figure is closer to 400,000.

Apart from Mr Beresford and Mr Sinclair, the candidates are Mr Dermot Nolan, Irish CND's national secretary and organiser of the anti-nuclear campaign when the American president visited Ireland last summer.

Mr Dan Plesch, a CND executive member from Bristol, who is involved in parliamentary lobbying.

Mr Peter Brunsdon, a policy lecturer who is a Labour Party member and CND activist in Merthyr Tydfil.

The interviews will be carried out by a panel of CND's chairman, Mrs Joan Ruddock; Mr Kent, CND's treasurer; Mr Mick Elliott, vice-chairman; Mr Des Smith, CND's office representative; Ms Claire Kinnear; and an executive member, Ms Elena Leiven.

If Mr Beresford replaces Mr Kent, it could mean a new international direction for CND.

The organisation she has been associated with, END, whose best known advocate is Professor E. P. Thompson, has argued that the struggle for disarmament and greater civil rights in Warsaw Pact states are indivisible.

A growing role for END supporters in CND's national organisation and more co-ordination of dissident groups.

If Mr Nolan were picked, it could mean more attention to campaigns against NATO.

Ms Ruddock is also expected to step down later this year. One possible successor is the vice-chairman, Mr Smith, a former general secretary linked with END.

Defence ministers seek compromise on fighter

By David Fairhall,

Defence Correspondent

Defence ministers will make a fresh effort in Rome today to persuade the French aerospace industry to join the £15-£20 billion European fighter aircraft programme, not as leaders but as equal partners.

The military requirement for the new fighter has been agreed by the air forces of all five nations concerned — Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and Spain — but two different designs have been offered to meet it, one from the French firm of Dassault and

the other jointly from the remaining four industries. Dassault, with its elderly autocratic management, has never collaborated seriously with anyone, and has an export record which seems to justify this chauvinist attitude, at least in its own eyes.

But in such a vast undertaking as the new fighter, designed to match whatever the US aircraft industry can offer, NATO in the mid-1980s, France has agreed to co-operate in order to share development costs and acquire collective technology.

The problem is to persuade the French to accept a collaborative formula giving no one formal leader and to reach an acceptable compromise between the European military requirement and the lighter — and perhaps more exportable — aircraft Dassault would like to build.

British Aerospace's Warton division has meanwhile begun final assembly of its experimental prototype to demonstrate the advanced technologies which will be needed for the fighter.

Large chunks of the aircraft, including the lightweight carbon fibre wings and an advanced cockpit, can be seen in the Lancashire factory, ready to be checked out for a first flight next summer.

To save further weight, the BAE demonstrator will use "data buses", single wires which can carry a million signals a second instead of the hundreds of individual wires normally required.

The aircraft's most startling characteristic is the deliberate aerodynamic instability of its front tailplane configuration,

which is in turn the key to its extreme agility. It could not be flown without a computer. If that fails, the pilot will instantly eject, because he could not respond fast enough to fly the aircraft on his own.

The experimental programme will cost British Aerospace and its industrial partners — Dowty, Ferranti, GEC, Lucas and Smiths — about £100 million, with the Government putting in another £80-£70 million.

Britain's share of the experimental programme would be £4-£5 billion over the next 16 years.

Building a purely British aircraft would cost even more, however, so if today's meeting in Rome ends in disagreement, the next question is whether the West German industry will join.

British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce as it did on the Tornado, or team up with the French.

Asked yesterday what he meant by collaboration, the experimental programme's director, Mr David Farry, said: "We don't talk about the BAE Tornado. It is built jointly

by a joint company, and we are all proud to be part of building it.

"We want to protect the interests of all the industries in Europe, with the work equally shared. That's what we call a true collaborative programme."

The work shares British Aerospace and the Ministry of Defence have in mind are 25 per cent each for Britain, France and Germany, and 25 per cent shared by Italy and Spain. They would like the project headquarters to be based in Germany.

Government cuts on police forces 'a public scandal'

By Tom Sharratt,

Government cuts imposed on the police as part of the squeeze on local authority financing were fast becoming a public scandal, a police leader told the Police Federation conference at Blackpool yesterday.

Police Constable Paul Midup, chairman of the constables' section of the federation, said that, with other local government services, the police were forced to bear their share of spending cuts.

"Central government cannot duck the issue any longer," he said. "It is fast turning into a public scandal which is entirely of their making. They cannot blame the local authorities any longer."

PC Midup, from South Yorkshire, said that the cuts had led to a loss of police manpower. In January 1984 there were 330 vacancies in the police forces of England and Wales. In January 1985 there were 1,709.

Police vehicles were having to be kept longer, and destruction of police properties was being cancelled, with repairs being done only in emergencies. Because pay for policing public holidays was classed as overtime, few officers were on duty on those days — creating a situation of danger in some areas.

"Whatever the answer is, the matter is extremely serious and requires immediate government attention," he said.

PC Midup, himself a miner's son, described the 12-hour shift as "a challenge to the democratic authority of the Government and an attempt by sheer mob violence and intimidation to

bring the country to its knees." The police had met that challenge magnificently, he said. "We did not like the job, but it was up to us to preserve the rule of law."

But he was angered by talk of police brutality. No one could expect during such a massive operation that police behaviour would be at all times exemplary, but only 438 complaints had been made against the police. "Don't talk about police brutality," said PC Midup. "Our men were trying to survive."

Now that the dispute was over, miners and police had to live and work together. "Let us bring our communities back to the friendly places they were before the dispute," PC Midup criticised the new disciplinary offences in racial discrimination as a slur and an insult. It was unnecessary because the police disciplinary code was already adequate.

He called for independent investigation of complaints against the police to be introduced as soon as possible. Although present methods of investigation were thorough and honest, the public would not be satisfied until independent investigation began.

In spite of a recommendation that it should not be put on the agenda, delegates voted to debate an emergency motion from Greater Manchester police attacking the Government for pursuing policies and legislation "which are in direct conflict with the efficient maintenance of law and order."

'Grave-diggers' for trial

Two young men who allegedly conspired to dig up the grave of the 10th Duke of Bedford, were yesterday sent for trial at Bristol Crown Court.

Magistrate ruled on the second day of committal proceedings at Yate, near Bristol, that Terrence James Helsby, aged 27, and John Christopher Helsby, aged 27, should stand trial at a date to be fixed.

Helsby and Curtis are unemployed and face four charges in connection with the desecration of the duke's grave on Boxing Day morning at the family burial plot at Badminton parish church, which ad-

joins Badminton House in Gloucestershire. Both were remanded in custody. They were represented in court by Mr John Mackenzie, but the magistrates rejected a bail application on behalf of Curtis. Reporting restrictions were lifted.

Helsby, of White Hart Lane, Tottenham, London, and Curtis, of England Avenue, Coventry, were charged by the Hunt Retribution Squad, said Mr Ian Glen, prosecuting, in opening the committal proceedings. He alleged that the group sought to end all blood sports by violent means.

A Saxon graveyard dating from AD 485 to AD 650, the time when the West Saxons were converted to Christianity, has been discovered by Oxford archaeologists at Lechlade, Gloucestershire.

Doctors seek laws on drug tests

By Andrew Veitch,

Medical Correspondent

Laws to protect people who volunteer for drug trials are to be recommended by the Royal College of Physicians.

The college will tell the Medicines Commission that firms should be legally obliged to compensate healthy volunteers who suffer during trials, unless they can prove that their drug was not to blame.

The college working party, set up at the request of the Medicines Commission to recommend safeguards, believes that the industry's voluntary code of practice on compensation is unsatisfactory.

It says that firms need not compensate victims if, on a balance of probabilities, it can be shown their drug might not have been to blame, or if the investigator, rather than the drug, caused the damage.

The working party, headed by Sir James Spence, Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, has completed a draft report. The final version is due to go to the Medicines Commission at the end of the year. The commission will in turn report to the Health Minister, Mr Kenneth Clarke. It is understood that commission members will support the call for laws on compensation.

Senior doctors were at pains to point out yesterday that the Medicines Commission had not — as Mr Clarke suggested in a recent Commons answer — recommended that laws to protect healthy volunteers were unnecessary. The commission had as yet made no recommendation on legislation, the doctors said.

The Royal College guidelines follow the deaths of two student volunteers in Cardiff and Dublin.

Sir Raymond said the college would recommend limits on the payment to healthy volunteers (£100 a week might be satisfactory, £500 would be considered an inducement); controls on the number of times someone could take part in trials; and more involvement by GPs to ensure that volunteers were fit before they entered trials.

Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

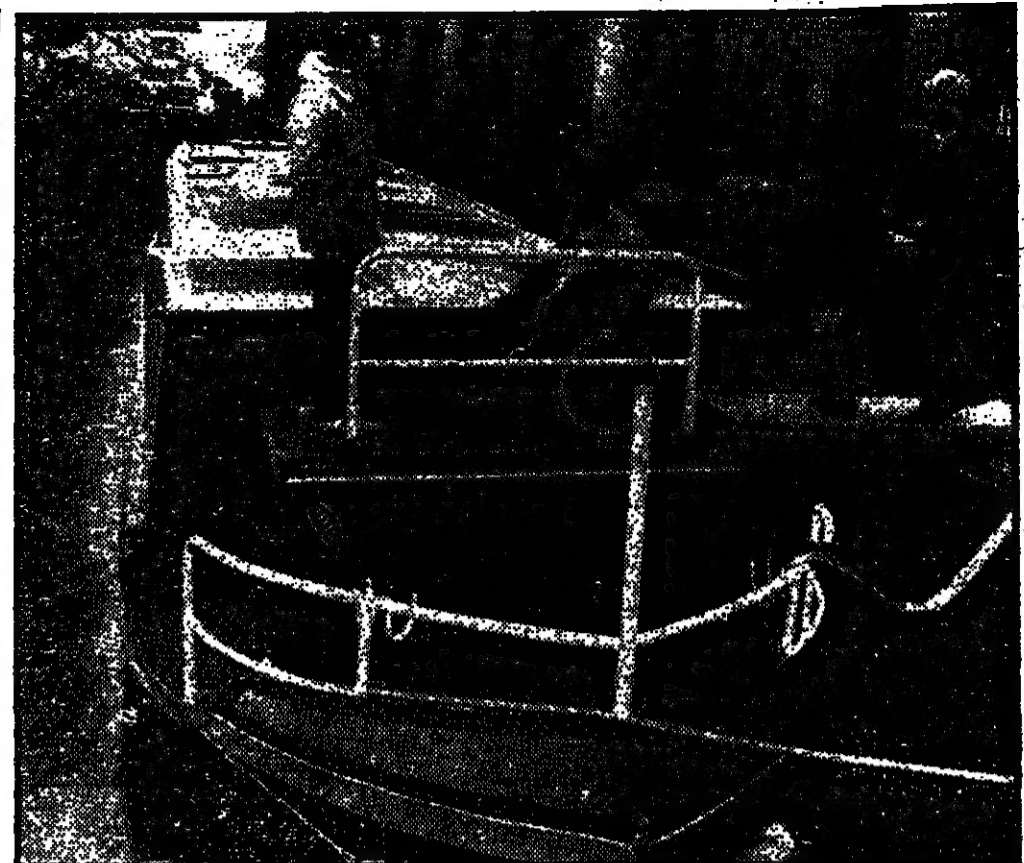
Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.



Dominic Cox, treasurer of the Docklands Canal Boat Trust, uses the special lift to go on board the Challenge boat at Tilbury which was built for the disabled by Youth Training Scheme members. Picture by E. Hamilton West

Loo to be turned into bistro

By Michael Parkin

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

Mr David Lovell and Mr Patrick Hogan, the partners behind the scheme, succeeded in their appeal at the Crown Court at Leeds yesterday against the refusal by licensing magistrates (in granting a drinks licence because of police objections. They were supported in their appeal by Calderdale District Council, which had given planning permission, and by local licensees.

Mr Lovell said yesterday that the conversion would cost about £150,000. Lavatory pedestals would be covered to provide seats for drinkers and three of the urinal stalls would be preserved for use. It hopes that WCs will open in August.

THE way is now clear for the conversion of a disused public lavatory at Halifax into a bistro and wine bar to be called WCs.

All eyes on Sinn Fein in Ulster local elections

From Paul Johnson,

In Belfast

Voters in Northern Ireland go to the polls today to elect 538 councillors on a total of 28 local authorities throughout the province.

Most interest in what was a low-key election campaign has focused on how well the political wing of the IRA, Sinn Fein, will do in its first province-wide council poll.

Both the main unionist parties made "smash Sinn Fein" their slogan. Sinn Fein itself has spoken of getting between 30 and 35 councillors elected, but this appears to be deliberately under-pitched. Most observers think that the eventual figure will be about 50.

Although local authorities in Northern Ireland have restricted powers — housing, education and health have been taken from them — the election of Sinn Fein members to the councils will cause endless disputes between them and the Unionists.

Between five and eight of the 26 authorities could become nationalist-controlled if there are unofficial parties between Sinn Fein and Mr John Hume's Social Democratic and Labour Party.

On the Unionist side, the Rev. Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party, which has been seeking to exploit uneasiness felt among the loyalists over Anglo-Irish manoeuvring and talk of a role for Dublin in the affairs of the North.

Today's election will see the effects of legislation introduced recently to combat the traditional Northern Ireland practice of personalism, fraudulent voting.

It has been said in the past that even the graveyards of Ulster come alive on polling day, but with voters now having to produce evidence of identification the Government hopes that personation will be almost eradicated.

Voters will have to show election officials one of several documents — a driving licence, a passport, Irish or British, a benefit book, a medical card or a marriage certificate.

There are currently 2 vacancies. You will be assigned initially to the Record Creation Branch to prepare data for the UK MARC data base and the British National Bibliography based upon material deposited at the Copyright Clearance Office. You must have (or expect to obtain shortly) a recognised library qualification.

There are currently 2 vacancies. Your duties involve the cataloguing of scientific books and periodicals in English and other Western European languages using a computer-based cataloguing system (LOCAS). Other duties may include taking part in the public services rota in the evenings or on Saturday mornings. You must have either a degree in science, engineering or a modern language or a recognised library qualification. You must have a knowledge of AACR2. A working knowledge of one or more foreign Western European languages advantageous. Appointment as Curator Grade R.

There are currently 2 vacancies. Your duties involve the cataloguing of scientific books and periodicals in English and other Western European languages using a computer-based cataloguing system (LOCAS). Other duties may include taking part in the public services rota in the evenings or on Saturday mornings. You must have either a degree in science, engineering or a modern language or a recognised library qualification. You must have a knowledge of AACR2. A working knowledge of one or more foreign Western European languages advantageous. Appointment as Curator Grade R.

There are currently 2 vacancies. Your duties involve the cataloguing of scientific books and periodicals in English and other Western European languages using a computer-based cataloguing system (LOCAS). Other duties may include taking part in the public services rota in the evenings or on Saturday mornings. You must have either a degree in science, engineering or a modern language or a recognised library qualification. You must have a knowledge of AACR2. A working knowledge of one or more foreign Western European languages advantageous. Appointment as Curator Grade R.

There are currently 2 vacancies. Your duties involve the cataloguing of scientific books and periodicals in English and other Western European languages using a computer-based cataloguing system (LOCAS). Other duties may include taking part in the public services rota in the evenings or on Saturday mornings. You must have either a degree in science, engineering or a modern language or a recognised library qualification. You must have a knowledge of AACR2. A working knowledge of one or more foreign Western European languages advantageous. Appointment as Curator Grade R.

There are currently 2 vacancies. Your duties involve the cataloguing of scientific books and periodicals in English and other Western European languages using a computer-based cataloguing system (LOCAS). Other duties may include taking part in the public services rota in the evenings or on Saturday mornings. You must have either a degree in science, engineering or a modern language or a recognised library qualification. You must have a knowledge of AACR2. A working knowledge of one or more foreign Western European languages advantageous. Appointment as Curator Grade R.

There are currently 2 vacancies. Your duties involve the cataloguing of scientific books and periodicals in English and other Western European languages using a computer-based cataloguing system (LOCAS). Other duties may include taking part in the public services rota in the evenings or on Saturday mornings. You must have either a degree in science, engineering or a modern language or a recognised library qualification. You must have a knowledge of AACR2. A working knowledge of one or more foreign Western European languages advantageous. Appointment as Curator Grade R.

There are currently 2 vacancies. Your duties involve the cataloguing of scientific books and periodicals in English and other Western European languages using a computer-based cataloguing system (LOCAS). Other duties may include taking part in the public services rota in the evenings or on Saturday mornings. You must have either a degree in science, engineering or a modern language or a recognised library qualification. You must have a knowledge of AACR2. A working knowledge of one or more foreign Western European languages advantageous. Appointment as Curator Grade R.

French nuclear deal call by Owen

By Colin Brown,

Political Staff

The SDF leader, Dr David Owen, has raised the prospect of Britain forming a partnership with France for the development of a common nuclear weapons strategy.

Dr Owen's comments in a BBC Radio interview after giving evidence to the Lords select committee on the European Community, went far beyond existing SDF/Liberal Alliance policy.

Many reservations remain within the Liberal Assembly about the Alliance's commitment to retain a British independent nuclear deterrent. Dr Owen has now added another dimension to the argument, which the Alliance leaders are hoping to settle through a joint policy commission on defence, which is due to report next year.

Dr Owen saw defence acting as a cement between the leading members of the EEC in the future. There would be greater unity only when Europe faced the stark reality of its own security and addressed the issue of defence.

"I see it in the tea leaves even now. There is no doubt that Germany and France are getting closer and closer, and not just on conventional weapons. France is also prepared to discuss a little bit more on the nuclear strategy," he said.

It was essential, said Dr Owen, that Britain became involved. The pressures coming from the US were going to intensify because, he said, the US was "fed up with paying the bill."

But Europe had a grievance because of a 9:1 imbalance vis-à-vis the US in defence procurement. "You are not going to persuade European citizens to dig deeper into their pockets and pay for national defence if all we're going to do is purchase American equipment the whole time. Trident is an American system. It is on this big issue of nuclear strategy that you will eventually, and hopefully, see Britain come into partnership."

In many senses, the only logical alternative if you rejected Trident, as Dr Owen did, was to discuss with the French the Polaris replacement, and to consider the question of a European cruise missile.

We are purchasing American equipment the whole time. Trident is an American system. It is on this big issue of nuclear strategy that you will eventually, and hopefully, see Britain come into partnership."

In many senses, the only logical alternative if you rejected Trident, as Dr Owen did, was to discuss with the French the Polaris replacement, and to consider the question of a European cruise missile.

We are purchasing American equipment the whole time. Trident is an American system. It is on this big issue of nuclear strategy that you will eventually, and hopefully, see Britain come into partnership."

In many senses, the only logical alternative if you rejected Trident, as Dr Owen did, was to discuss with the French the Polaris replacement, and to consider the question of a European cruise missile.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

SOCIAL WORK

CLWYD COUNTY COUNCIL

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Services to people with mental handicap and their families in Clwyd.

SOCIAL WORKER

(Mental Handicap) Services Development based in Wrexham. Salary Level 2 following 6 months qualification experience and level 3 following 2 years qualification experience.

- Do you want to work with people with mental handicap?
- Do you have a commitment to put people first in development services?
- Do you believe that people with mental handicap should have a say in what services should exist and how they should be organised?
- Do you have the creative ability to develop radically different approaches to service planning and delivery?
- Do you want to work with colleagues who view change as a challenge?
- Do you have the personal confidence and skills to work alongside professionals from the Health and Education Services with major responsibilities for implementing the All Wales Strategy?

If you can answer "Yes" to these questions we would like to talk with you about working in Clwyd. Please telephone the following persons for further details: Mike Field on Inside 810546 or Graham Harper on Mold 2131 Ext 2288.

J A DAVIES,

County Personnel Management Services Officer.

Lothian Regional Council

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

WELFARE RIGHTS OFFICER

BASED AT 55 COCKBURN STREET, EDINBURGH

£7,746 - £9,795

The Welfare Rights Team have been conducting a major campaign encouraging the uptake of benefits for the past year. Each of the five Welfare Rights Officers presently have responsibility for one Social Work Division. This post covers Edinburgh West.

Once the follow up to the present campaign is finished, the Team will be re-shaped to provide a more general Welfare Rights service.

Applicants should have a high standard of education in Social Science, Law, Community Work, Social Work or some related field. Experience in Welfare Rights or related field is desirable, though in-service training is provided.

Enquiries to Ann Hannah, Regional Welfare Rights Officer, Shrubhill House, Leith Walk, Edinburgh (01-633 4301 ext 275), or 65 Cockburn Street (01-225 5080).

Application forms from the Administrative Officer (Personnel), Shrubhill House, 7 Shrub Place, Edinburgh. Tel: 01-634 4301. Ext 355/356.

Closing Date: May 21, 1985

WARDEN

ROUNDABOUT HOTEL

Sheffield Hotel for young

household (15 beds), open 7

days. Requires 1 year's

experience. Warden with ex-

perience. Some night

work

THE DAY IN POLITICS

Oil supplies safe after BNOC goes pledges minister

OIL

By our Political Staff
An assurance that Britain's oil supplies will be safe-guarded despite the abolition of the state-owned British National Oil Corporation was given in the Commons last night by the Energy Minister of State, Mr Alec Buchanan-Smith.

The minister also announced that BNOC's successor agency would not continue the corporation's role in trading in liquefied petroleum gas, and that redundant employees would be offered terms in line with those paid by private oil companies.

Mr Buchanan-Smith was speaking during the second reading debate by the House to establish BNOC's smaller, less powerful successor — the Oil and Pipelines Agency.

Any severe disruption of oil supplies would be dealt with under arrangements with the International Energy Authority, he said.

As a fall-back the Government had powers in a crisis to control all UK production "whatever produces it and whatever the contract may be," said Mr Buchanan-Smith.

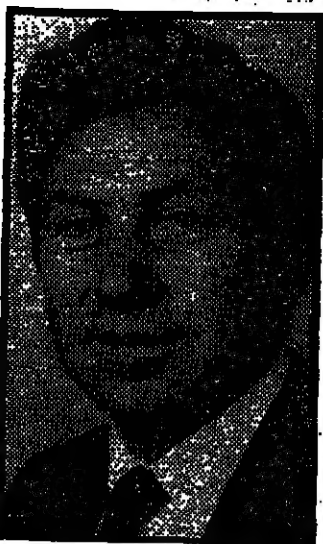
In the event of minor interruptions of supply the Government had obtained assurances from the refining and marketing companies "which we believe to meet this kind of crisis and should be adequate for it." Therefore, said Mr Buchanan-Smith, "I do not believe that the abolition of BNOC should in any way diminish our country's security of supply of oil and of its products."

It was necessary to discard those parts of BNOC that had become outdated and a potential liability.

Mr Buchanan-Smith singled out the contractual agreements under which BNOC acquired and sold "participation oil" as the main problem and said that the practice had ceased to prevent instability in the market.

The reason for this is that we have seen fresh developments in the market by which these arrangements had the potential to spark off a cycle of competitive under-cutting which would run a serious risk of dragging down prices. The problem was no reflection on BNOC or its staff.

The minister attempted to allay the fears of the smaller independent companies who have been selling their entire output to BNOC. He said confidential discussions were now going on with the larger oil companies and the indications



Mr Buchanan-Smith: 'Paria of BNOC outdated'

where that they would undertake to market the small producers' output.

Mr Buchanan-Smith said that the bill was the direct consequence of changes which had taken place in the oil market. Although BNOC had performed a useful purpose in the past there was no longer a need to maintain the body whose main function could be carried out by the private sector.

Mr Ted Rowlands, Labour's energy spokesman, said the Opposition fundamentally disagreed with the Government over the need to abolish BNOC.

"It served an important national function as the only organisation in the North Sea with 100 per cent loyalty to this nation and to Parliament," he said.

He made a special plea for the small British independent oil companies in the North Sea, which were rapidly being gobbled up by the large multinational companies in mergers and take-overs.

He demanded that the new agency, which is to be allowed to trade on a small scale in oil received as royalties, be allowed to market the production of the small independent oil companies.

Labour MPs also challenged the oil minister to publish the assurances on guarantees of emergency supplies from the major oil companies. But he said the details were a matter of commercial confidentiality.

the opening of the new airport and created controversy when he was reported to have said that the mothers of disappeared persons in Argentina had "bare guts" than the Falkland Islanders had shown.

Mrs Thatcher was asked in the Commons by Mr Ivan Lawrence (C. Burton) whether she agreed that the remarks would have left the Falklanders in no doubt that the Labour Party had not the faintest interest in protecting their rights.

Mrs Thatcher said: "I think those remarks must have been deeply wounding and we on this side reject them."

Mr Stuart Bell (Lab. Middlesbrough) complained that the Prime Minister should not have been asked about Mr Foulkes as she should only answer questions related to her executive responsibility and not statements made by members of the Labour Party.

Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, conceded: "I think I was in error in not pulling up the MP. Of course, questions to the Prime Minister must be on her responsibilities."

Mr Frank Cook (Lab. Stockton N.) challenged Mrs Thatcher yesterday to apologise over an attack on staff at the Endeavour School for physically handicapped pupils in Middlesbrough made by her last Thursday in the Commons.

The Prime Minister had said she believed that the headmaster was left to cope, on his own at lunch-time as teachers were abandoning children confined to wheelchairs.

Mr Cook has received a letter from a teacher at the school which claims that Mr Malcolm Smith, the headmaster, was not left alone to cope during the lunch break but was accompanied by the nursing staff, dinner ladies and teaching auxiliaries. Members of the teaching staff were also available in the event of an emergency.

Mrs Thatcher said: "Of course I will receive a copy of that letter." She added: "If it's wrong, I apologise. But I wish to see the facts."

Later, Downing Street denied that Mrs Thatcher had misled the House and said she was right to describe the headmaster as working single-handed as, although he had the help of ancillary staff, teachers were on strike.

GLC BILL

Attack on arts plans fought off

The Government last night in the Lords defeated a bid to set up a strategic arts and leisure authority for London after the abolition of the Greater London Council.

The Opposition move was rejected by 172 to 143 (majority 29), during the committee stage of the Local Government Bill, the measure which scraps the GLC and metropolitan county councils.

Government supporters rallied to back the Arts Minister, Lord Gower, who said the move "runs counter to the purpose of the bill. Our aim is to devolve responsibilities for recreation and the arts to the democratically-elected local authorities who are already in place."

Lord Gower said the new body proposed by Labour arts spokesman, Lord Strabolgi, would not have the expertise of the Arts Council, which is planned to take over many of London's cultural activities.

But Lord Strabolgi warned that borough councils would not have the cash to finance London's theatres, parks and recreational activities.

A similar move setting up authorities for the six metropolitan counties, put forward by Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge, was withdrawn.

Thatcher 'pension snatcher' taunt

By our Political Staff

A LABOUR MP accused Mrs Thatcher of being a "pension snatcher" in the Commons yesterday.

The accusation came during question time, when Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, came under attack for his reported plans to scrap the state earnings-related pension scheme (SERPS).

Dr Oonagh McDonald, a Labour Treasury spokesman, told the Commons that ending SERPS would mean more pensioners in future living on supplementary benefit.

Both workers and employers will have to pay higher national insurance contributions for workers to get far less by way of pension in the future.

The Prime Minister has moved on from being the milk snatcher to being the pension snatcher.

Mrs Margaret Beckett, a Labour social services spokesman warned that the extension of private occupational pensions to those now covered by the state scheme would cost £3,000 million to £6,000 million extra in tax relief.

"How soon can we expect the Chancellor to renege on his commitment not to change tax relief for occupational pensioners as thoroughly as Mr Fowler and the Prime Minister have reneged on their commitment to pensioners in the state earnings-related scheme?" she asked.

To Labour laughter, Mr Fowler replied: "There are no plans to change the tax relief as far as occupational pensions are concerned." He

said the green paper on his social security review would be published after Whitsun.

"I am entirely content to be judged on the proposals in the green paper. I am not prepared to be judged on half-baked scare stories put forward by the Opposition."

Replying to Dr McDonald, Mr Fowler said the proposal would not affect the basic pension, which had increased by 84 per cent compared to a 77 per cent rise in retail prices since the Government came to power in 1979.

Mr Fowler told another Labour MP: "It would be utterly irresponsible of this Government not to look forward and make some judgment of what the costs are and what this country will have to bear."

He also said that the biggest deceit was that of Labour Leader, Mr. Neil

Kinnock who made promises "he knows perfectly well cannot be fulfilled. That is the biggest swindle for pensioners." This Government was looking at the social security system whereas previous ones had "fucked" it.

Mr Fowler said his review was necessary to get a modern social security system which would channel money to those most in need. "One of the areas which gives me most cause for concern are families with children."

Earlier, Mr Michael Meacher, the Shadow Social Services Secretary, had repeated his assertion that as a result of the review, 2 million payments a year for items such as secondhand cookers for those on welfare benefit would be saved.

But social services ministers refused to comment on the decisions in the review.

strong rapport over policy. Oxfordshire County Council is to have three chairmen for each of its committees in future — one from each party — as its solution to the balance of power left after the elections at the beginning of the month.

At the annual meeting yesterday the Conservative, Labour and Alliance groups decided that the previous power that was invested in the chair should be split between three acting as an "emergency

sub-committee" and deciding by majority rule.

In Hampshire, where the hung council could lose its balance if the Conservatives press ahead with plans to challenge a close result in Winchester, Mr Philip Merridale, the Tory chairman of the Association of County Councils, was re-elected as a county delegate without the help of Labour votes and Mr Michael Hancock was defeated in an election for the chairmanship of the council, courtesy to the impression given in yesterday's Guardian.



Dr Oonagh McDonald

Labour councillors warned against Alliance deals

By John Carvel

Labour leaders yesterday advised the party's councillors on hung counties to avoid the temptation of rushing into deals with the Alliance to drive the Tories from power.

Any small Labour group which had come in third place in the county elections on May 2 should abstain rather than vote the Alliance into office, the councillors were told.

Frontbench and NEC spokesmen were speaking at a private meeting with Labour representatives from most of the

25 hung counties which emerged with no party in overall control after the local polls earlier this month.

They advised them to beware of grabbing the illusion of power. Labour councillors could well make arrangements with the Alliance parties if they could agree common policies on main parts of Labour's programme, but they should not join hands with the Alliance to seize committee chairmanships unless a clear policy agreement was established.

Where Labour was the largest single party, it should seek to form an administration on its manifesto programme, inviting the Alliance to give what support they could.

Where the Alliance was the largest party, it was logical that there should be an Alliance administration, although Labour should not give pledges of support.

Where the Tories were the largest single party and Labour was in the third place, it would be wrong for Labour to engineer an Alliance administration unless there was a

strong rapport over policy.

Andreas Neads, Oxfordshire County Council is to have three chairmen for each of its committees in future — one from each party — as its solution to the balance of power left after the elections at the beginning of the month.

At the annual meeting yesterday the Conservative, Labour and Alliance groups decided that the previous power that was invested in the chair should be split between three acting as an "emergency

sub-committee" and deciding by majority rule.

In Hampshire, where the hung council could lose its balance if the Conservatives press ahead with plans to challenge a close result in Winchester, Mr Philip Merridale, the Tory chairman of the Association of County Councils, was re-elected as a county delegate without the help of Labour votes and Mr Michael Hancock was defeated in an election for the chairmanship of the council, courtesy to the impression given in yesterday's Guardian.

LAND CAMPAIGN

State land call by Benn

By James Naughtie

MR Tony Benn will launch a campaign today to commit the Labour Party to the public ownership of land.

Mr Benn intends to introduce a bill into the Commons calling for the public ownership of all land, with exemptions for freeholders, and de-

signed to replace rates as the source of finance for local government.

He said last night: "This is the alternative to Mrs Thatcher's rates policy. It will also bring out that rural radicalism which the Labour Party has never really tapped."

Mr Benn's bill, which he intends to present to the Commons in July, has been drafted in consultation with the Labour Land Campaign and the Campaign Group of Labour MPs, and takes policy much further than the existing party programme and further than the leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, would like.

It heralds a new drive by Mr Benn to attract support among party activists for a series of policy demands which he believes should form the basis of the next general election manifesto.

FALKLANDS

'Wounding remarks'

By our Political Staff

The Prime Minister yesterday condemned reported remarks made by Mr George Foulkes, a Labour foreign affairs spokesman, at the opening of the Falklands airport on Monday as "deeply wounding."

Mr Foulkes was one of the British delegation attending

HANDICAPPED

PM in new strike row

By our Political Staff

THE Prime Minister has been asked to apologise for the second time during the teachers' dispute over her remarks condemning action taken by teachers at schools for the handicapped.

Mr Frank Cook (Lab. Stockton N.) challenged Mrs Thatcher yesterday to apologise over an attack on staff at the Endeavour School for physically handicapped pupils in Middlesbrough made by her last Thursday in the Commons.

The Prime Minister had said she believed that the headmaster was left to cope, on his own at lunch-time as teachers were abandoning children confined to wheelchairs.

Mr Cook has received a letter from a teacher at the school which claims that Mr Malcolm Smith, the headmaster, was not left alone to cope during the lunch break but was accompanied by the nursing staff, dinner ladies and teaching auxiliaries. Members of the teaching staff were also available in the event of an emergency.

Mrs Thatcher said: "Of course I will receive a copy of that letter." She added: "If it's wrong, I apologise. But I wish to see the facts."

Later, Downing Street denied that Mrs Thatcher had misled the House and said she was right to describe the headmaster as working single-handed as, although he had the help of ancillary staff, teachers were on strike.

WHETHER YOU NEED A LOW VOLUME COPIER

WHETHER YOU NEED A MEDIUM VOLUME COPIER

WHETHER YOU NEED A HIGH VOLUME COPIER

WHETHER YOU NEED A HEAVY DUTY COPIER

Up to 99 copies automatically at 15 copies a minute. Enlarges and reduces in over 700 sizes. Perfect copy quality thanks to Micro-Toning. For the full story fill in this coupon.

Up to 99 copies automatically at 25 copies a minute. Enlarges and reduces in over 700 sizes, making it 10 times more accurate than most other copiers. Copy quality is perfect with Micro-Toning and there is an optional Document Feeder and sorter. Send off the coupon for more details.

Up to 999 copies automatically at a rate of 33 copies a minute. Enlarges and reduces in over 700 sizes, making it ten times more accurate than most other copiers. Like all Minolta copiers, the EP 550Z has Micro-Toning to ensure perfect copy quality. As with the EP 450Z and 550Z, there is also the facility for attaching a large capacity 1500 sheet cassette for A4 paper. Send off the coupon for more details.

Up to 999 copies automatically at a rate of 46 copies a minute. Enlarges and reduces in over 700 sizes, making it ten times more accurate than most other copiers. Like all Minolta copiers, the EP 650Z has Micro-Toning to ensure perfect copy quality. As with the EP 450Z and 550Z, there is also the facility for attaching a large capacity 1500 sheet cassette for A4 paper. Send off the coupon for more details.

Minolta (UK) Ltd, 1-3 Tanners Drive, Blakelands North, Milton Keynes MK14 5BU. Telephone: (0908) 615141.

NAME _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL: _____

Minolta (UK) Ltd, 1-3 Tanners Drive, Blakelands North, Milton Keynes MK14 5BU. Telephone: (0908) 615141.

NAME _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL: _____

Minolta (UK) Ltd, 1-3 Tanners Drive, Blakelands North, Milton Keynes MK14 5BU. Telephone: (0908) 615141.

NAME _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL: _____

Minolta (UK) Ltd, 1-3 Tanners Drive, Blakelands North, Milton Keynes MK14 5BU. Telephone: (0908) 615141.

NAME _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL: _____

Kohl told his attitude to SDI
damaging German interests

Chancellor accused of subservience to the US

From Anna Tomforde
in Bonn

The West German Chancellor was accused yesterday of "eager subservience" to the United States over President Reagan's Star Wars plan and the US trade embargo on Nicaragua.

Mr. Kohl, whose party—the CDU—was soundly beaten by the opposition Social Democrats, told Chancellor Kohl that "we are friends of the American people, but not the vassals of every administration in Washington" during bitter exchanges in the Bundestag.

Dr. Kohl, whose party—the CDU—was soundly beaten by the SPD in state elections at the weekend, was accused that his handling of President Reagan's visit had damaged West Germany's foreign policy interests.

The chancellor, in a debate specially called to assess the Reagan visit and the recent Western economic summit here, replied that the President's trip was an "historic event" comparable to the 1963 visit of President Kennedy.

While the opposition maintained that Mr. Kohl's controversial tour of the Bitburg cemetery and the former Belsen concentration camp had reopened old wounds in Bonn's relations with America, the Jewish people, and countries which suffered under the Nazis, Dr. Kohl said Mr. Reagan had won the respect of all Germans by refusing to bow to pressure to call off the visit.

"We are grateful for the American President's gesture of reconciliation in Bergen-Belsen and Bitburg cemetery. The German people, and I shall never forget this," Dr. Kohl said in a statement frequently

Pressure to breach treaty limits

From Michael White
in Washington

There are fears that the furious debate within the Reagan Administration between opponents and supporters of the Salt II treaty may result in an agreement to split the difference, so undermining Soviet compliance.

Yesterday, four senior senators from both parties publicly appealed to the President not to "cast a pall over the arms talks in Geneva" by permitting a US breach.

The United States is close to the limit of 1,200 multi-warhead (MIRV) missiles which the treaty allows to both sides and will pass it in theory when the latest Trident submarine, the USS Alaska, starts its sea trials, probably in mid-September.

There has been a suggestion that a Poseidon submarine be simultaneously taken out of service and put in dry dock. The formula is presented as being in a "grey area" of the treaty, but privately administration officials admit what critics claim: that, legally, it would be a breach and that the only grey area would be the political price, at home and abroad, which the Administration would have to pay.

Hardliners within the Administration, led by the Assistant Secretary of Defence, Mr. Richard Perle, have been advocating abandonment of Salt II, which the US obeys but never ratified on the grounds that the Russians need the pressure of a US buildup to negotiate deep cuts in Geneva. Many others, including congressmen and some Pentagon generals, believe that US interests are better served by compliance. The Russians are currently having to dismantle more older missiles and submarines in order to comply, even though they are still in breach of the limits in some categories.

President Reagan recently said he had not made up his mind on the issue. But pressure is considerable. The Administration is obliged to report on what are called its "interim restraint" policies — arms controls deals now in existence — to Congress by June.

Public opinion has recently been softened up with claims of alleged Soviet violations of both Salt II, which Mr. Reagan once called "fatally flawed," and the 1972 ABM treaty on defensive weapons systems. The debate within the Administration is pointing towards a "more flexible" interpretation of the rules.

Alternatives being discussed, according to reports in yesterday's Washington Post, include delaying the Alaska trials, raising the claim that sea trials do not constitute deployment, or delaying destruction of the Poseidon missiles.

The idea of cutting out the Poseidon's launching bays and reconstructing the Poseidon as a "bunker-buster" submarine, which would comply with Salt II if it was done openly within 60 days of the Alaska launch, does not appeal to the Administration precisely because it would open the option of redeployment.

The Administration here believes that the Soviet Union has taken the United States for a ride in a wide range of arms control agreements which it has breached. Others, including former Reagan aides, are anxious "not to sound like leaving Europeans," believe that a US breach would enable the Russians to deploy their new SS24s without removing older missiles on a one-for-one basis.

Pope hits back hard at liberals

From Derek Brown
in Amsterdam

THE Pope fiercely counter-attacked his critics here yesterday, calling on Catholics to resist liberal demands on contraception, divorce, and homosexuality.

"I cannot imagine a Christian society in which divorce, abortion, sexual relationships before marriage, and homosexuality are tolerated," he told an audience of young people in Amsterdam.

The Pope, who was given a rapturous reception by the carefully-selected audience, was visibly more relaxed than at previous events on his controversial visit. He told an audience of young people in Amsterdam.

He told the young audience that the Church had clear answers to social problems. But he added: "Youth must remain the critical conscience of the older people."

This Pope is old, too, and he needs you. The youngsters responded with applause and chants of "John Paul Two, we support you."

Earlier, at an open air mass near Maastricht, he strongly defended the Church's conservative line on family and social issues. The family, he insisted, was the basis of society. Divorce and birth control were "human failings which ought to be resisted."

The open air Mass, although marred by high winds and threatening clouds, was the best attended event of the four-day papal tour of the Netherlands, marked by liberal criticism, sporadic violent demonstrations, and widespread public apathy. The attendance was estimated at between 40,000 and 60,000. The organisers had hoped for 100,000 and special trains were laid on to bring the faithful from all over the country.

Only about 1,000 people used the trains to Maastricht — fewer, according to a railway spokesman, than on a normal working day. Many of the worshippers, and the 30,000 crowd which lined the Pope's procession route, are thought to have crossed nearby borders from West Germany and Belgium.

There were the normal, strict security precautions yesterday, and no trouble was reported. Police said they had arrested half a dozen people, most of them for carrying "projectiles."

One youth was detained for having a box containing a dead rat.

Police also closed one of the approach roads, following a bomb warning. But nothing was found. Elsewhere, police raided property occupied by squatters in Den Bosch and recovered stolen police radio equipment. It had been used in the town on Saturday to disrupt police communica-

tions during the Pope's visit with broadcasts of the satirical hit song, "Pope-Jope."

In Amsterdam yesterday morning, a statue of Christ was decapitated by anti-papal protesters. Students of the city's Catholic theological school issued a strong protest against the conservative bishop of Haarlem, who had pronounced that homosexuals had no place in the church.

The students, echoing widespread criticism by Dutch liberal Catholics, said the bishop's message had been discriminatory and insulting.

The Pope has told the Franciscans of the order of Friars Minor to correct what he called theories and practices outside their tradition. In a letter to the Order published yesterday in the Vatican newspaper, the Pope also said he was appointing a personal delegate to oversee a meeting that will elect a new Superior General.

Ortega wants Reagan summit

From Roy Gutman
in Washington

President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua has agreed to a suggestion by Archbishop John O'Connor of New York for a summit meeting with President Reagan.

President Ortega supported the idea in a message to the archbishop in which he criticised the Reagan Administration for conducting "an illegal and immoral war of aggression," but pledged he would make "all possible efforts to promote peace."

The Nicaraguan ambassador, Mr. Carlos Tunnerman, said that he had sent a copy of the cable to the State Department, but officials said that they were not aware of it.

The message was released on the eve of a second round of congressional debates on US aid to Nicaragua rebels. Three weeks ago, Congress rejected Mr. Reagan's request for \$14 million in military aid but, after Mr. Ortega's recent trip to Moscow and other Soviet bloc countries, leaders of both parties predicted that a similar amount of humanitarian aid would be approved.

In an interview, Mr. Tunnerman said that Nicaragua would regard humanitarian aid as "military logistics" and would continue criticising US actions in forums such as the World Court and the United Nations. Nicaragua did not plan any direct retaliation but would seek a resumption of talks with the US, broken off in January by Washington.

Nicaragua, responding to the US trade embargo, has urged the US to renounce its policy of "force" against the jurisdiction of the World Court, and return to the diplomatic talks.

In his message to Archbishop O'Connor, Mr. Ortega said of the summit idea: "We believe it would provide an excellent opportunity to search for constructive formulas in order to resolve our differences according to the interests of our countries."

President Ortega, in Rome on a two-day visit, was told by the Socialist Prime Minister, Mr. Bettino Craxi, yesterday that Italy will continue its aid to the Sandinistas.

Newbury

Tony Jenkins adds from Tegucigalpa: Hundreds of refugees are fleeing their homes near the southern border with Nicaragua, where fighting has spilled over into Honduras.

In the village of Las Trojes, in the south of the country, nearly 1,000 refugees from Honduran villages have confirmed that Sandinista troops crossed the border in strength at least twice in the last 10 days to attack "contras."

The refugees say the Sandinistas have used multiple rocket-launchers to attack rebel positions in and around their villages. Officials report at least five casualties, including one Honduran soldier killed.

Honduras has protested to Nicaragua. Managua has denied the accusations.

The Honduran army has declared the border zone an area of emergency and mobilised hundreds of troops.

Generals 'knew' of dirty war

Buenos Aires: A former military president has told the trial of nine ex-military leaders that they could not claim ignorance about human rights violations by the armed forces in their seven-year "dirty war" against leftwingers and opponents.

General Alejandro Lanusse, who left office in 1976, before the start of human rights violations during a second period of military rule from 1976, accused three fellow generals of involvement in the 1977 disappearance of a young man, press secretary, Edgardo Sajon.

Asked by the court whether Sajon might still be alive, he said: "I would not hold any illusions about that."

General Lanusse was testifying in the fourth week of the trial of the former military leaders, including ex-president Jorge Videla, Roberto Viola, and Leopoldo Galtieri, the abduction, torture and death of over 9,000 Argentines.

He also spoke of the abduction and murder in 1978 of his cousin, a diplomat, Elena Holmberg, said by relatives to have been killed because she knew too much about the unofficial activities of a navy propaganda centre set up in Paris.

General Lanusse said that he accompanied Holmberg's relatives to a meeting with General Guillermo Suarez Mason, then head of the First Army Corps, after the diplomat's body was washed ashore on a river bank near Buenos Aires. A police officer showed them a body which was "not Holmberg's, drawing a sharp contrast from General Suarez Mason."

General Lanusse said that the officer told General Suarez Mason: "Don't forget. Generals have been thrown into the river." —Reuter.

Pole forced to quit after priest's death

Warsaw: A Communist Party leader, responsible for internal security affairs when police murdered a radical pro-Solidarity priest last October, was removed yesterday from the party politburo and central committee.

The central committee accepted the resignation of Mr. Miroslaw Milewski, aged 57, from his posts at a plenary session in Warsaw, the party spokesman, Mr. Jerzy Majka, told a press conference.

Mr. Milewski was responsible for internal security when four Interior Ministry policemen kidnapped and murdered Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the Warsaw priest who preached fiery sermons in defence of Solidarity.

The four were found guilty of the murder and sentenced to a total of 79 years in gaol, but they denied at trial that they plotted against the priest that had involved security officials higher than themselves.

However, the party leader, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, denounced the murder as an assault by hardliners on his authority and early last November took over Mr. Milewski's duties as party supervisor of the Interior Ministry.

Mr. Majka said that Mr. Milewski had resigned for personal reasons and had not

attended the plenum. He added: "There is no connection whatsoever with the killing of Father Popieluszko."

Western diplomats here had expected the dismissal of Mr. Milewski from the highest posts of the party since General Jaruzelski took over.

The extent to which he was in disgrace, however, was shown by the fact that he not only lost his politburo membership and a central committee secretaryship but was removed from the central committee, the diplomats said.

Meanwhile, a convicted murderer who approached the Solidarity leader, Mr. Lech Walesa, and claimed he had been offered money to kill him has been detained for investigation.

A public prosecutor in Gdansk said yesterday that Jozef Szczepanski was arrested on May 9 after he went to Mr. Walesa's Gdansk apartment to warn him about the plot.

Mr. Szczepanski, aged 34, was jailed for 11 years in 1981 for murder and was on compassionate leave from prison, because his wife was suffering from cancer, when he spoke to Mr. Walesa. He had made several suicide attempts and had received psychiatric treatment. —Reuter.

Dioxin 3 acquitted

MILAN: Three officials of the Icmesa chemical plant at Seveso, site of the dioxin disaster in 1976, were acquitted by an appeal court yesterday of criminal responsibility. Two others had their sentences reduced.

The five were given prison terms ranging from 21 to five years by a court in Monza in 1983 after four of them were convicted of wilfully omitting safety precautions and the fifth was found guilty of involuntary negligence.

An explosion at the Swiss-owned plant in July, 1976, sent a cloud of highly toxic dioxin over the surrounding area.

Those acquitted were the former Icmesa chairman, Mr. Guy Waldvogel, the plant designer, Mr. Fritz Moeri, and the technical director Mr. Giovanni Radice.

The former managing director, Herwig Von Zweni and the technical director, Jorg-Anton Sambeth, had their five-year sentences cut to two years and 18 months respectively. —Reuter.

Spanish Nato referendum 'not binding'

From Jane Walker
in Madrid

The government would not consider as binding the results of a referendum on Spain's continued membership of Nato.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Felipe Gonzalez, said yesterday that he would decide whether to honour the referendum after seeing the size of the majority.

Mr. Gonzalez, who was travelling to Stockholm for an official conference, will address the disarmament conference, said that he would not feel bound to accept the results of the referendum if a large percentage of the popula-

tion abstained when asked for their opinion on continued membership of Nato.

He declined to say what he considered a "quantitative majority" but added: "We will have to establish a level of participation beyond which the referendum would be morally, but not legally, binding."

He suggested that a fair level would be 50 per cent of the electorate plus one. In no case, he added, would a negative vote for Nato force Spain to adopt a neutral or non-aligned position.

The Prime Minister has promised a referendum to consult Spaniards on the controversial question of Nato mem-

bership and assured them that it would be held within the first three months of next year.

The latest opinion poll on Nato membership — taken at the end of April — surprised the government, which had hoped that Mr. Gonzalez's backing for membership would persuade many of his supporters to follow his line. But the poll showed that 54 per cent of Spaniards were against remaining in the alliance, and only 19 per cent in favour.

Twenty-seven per cent of those questioned said either they did not know or would abstain.

Mr. Gonzalez denied that he

Tough rules likely for coal industry

From Alex Scott
in Brussels

A row about EEC plans to phase out subsidies to the coal industry began yesterday in the European Parliament after the EEC Commissioner responsible for the coal industry, Mr. Nic Mosar, refused to deny reports that the Commission would propose a tough new policy when deciding on amended rules within the next fortnight.

"The Commission is attempting to knock the guts out of the coal industry in Europe," the Labour MEP, Mr. Les Hockfield, said after hearing the committee's statement.

According to widely-leaked

documents from the Commission, the new policy would close a number of so-called "profitless pits."

Mr. Mosar claimed that this was only one of a series of working documents being considered by the Commission, but confirmed that where production is not profitable, subsidies should be reduced progressively. He also admitted that aid to the coal industry will in any case increase "in the coming years," but that later certain subsidies would have to be cut.

The commissioner's comments seemed to back the line taken by the British Government.

Aids now a world problem

From Martin Walker
in Moscow

In a night raid on the home of two members of the Phantom Group of musicians in the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, the KGB confiscated bibles, religious books and clippings from the Western press, including a Guardian report on one of the group's first concerts, dissident sources said yesterday.

The raid, on the home of the Gulava brothers, began on Monday evening while they were recording their mother to Tbilisi airport for a flight to Moscow. Her departure was forbidden and her internal passport confiscated, the sources said.

During the raid, the KGB also confiscated two typewriters, a message from the Georgian group which monitors the Helsinki accords, and a statement from the Phantom Group bringing together Georgian, Jewish, Christian and other musicians to give unauthorised public concerts in private flats. Many have repeatedly been refused exit visas by the authorities.

Last month, the group suffered its first direct harassment, when a non-Jewish musician was questioned by the KGB and warned to stay away as the group was "behaving in an anti-Soviet way."

Active research was being carried out towards an effective vaccine.

Why the Kremlin faces both ways, page 21

KGB men chasing Phantoms

From Martin Walker
in Moscow

In a night raid on the home of two members of the Phantom Group of musicians in the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, the KGB confiscated bibles, religious books and clippings from the Western press, including a Guardian report on one of the group's first concerts, dissident sources said yesterday.

The raid, on the home of the Gulava brothers, began on Monday evening while they were recording their mother to Tbilisi airport for a flight to Moscow. Her departure was forbidden and her internal passport confiscated, the sources said.

During the raid, the KGB also confiscated two typewriters, a message from the Georgian group which monitors the Helsinki accords, and a statement from the Phantom Group bringing together Georgian, Jewish, Christian and other musicians to give unauthorised public concerts in private flats. Many have repeatedly been refused exit visas by the authorities.

Last month, the group suffered its first direct harassment, when a non-Jewish musician was questioned by the KGB and warned to stay away as the group was "behaving in an anti-Soviet way."

Active research was being carried out towards an effective vaccine.

Why the Kremlin faces both ways, page 21

Unknown President tackles the legacy of Tito

From Barney Petrovic
in Belgrade

RADOVAN VLAJKOVIC becomes President of Yugoslavia, possibly the most important economic and industrial power in the Balkans, today. Few people in the world will ever have heard of him.

Even in his own country, where he represents the northern province of Vojvodina in the collective state Presidency, Mr. Vlackovic, aged 63, is relatively unknown.

He takes over from Veselin Djuranovic of Montenegro under a system of rotation which enables each of Yugoslavia's six constituent republics and two autonomous provinces to assume the presidency for one year in turn. The system was designed by the late President Tito to prevent any region or any personality dominating the others.

Tito died in 1980. Many Yugoslavs look back fondly at his era, when they lived better and had less to worry about. But many now admit that present economic problems, with all their political and social repercussions, are rooted in that time.

Frustrated new leaders, unable to wield the enormous authority of their great predecessor, have begun making startling revelations in an obvious attempt to justify their own difficulties. Thus, the Yugoslavs have only belatedly learnt that their country's hard currency foreign debt now amounts to \$19 billion and that, together with interest, double that sum will have to be repaid in a period extending into the next century. From the problem of the debt, many other difficulties.

The Communist Party, meant as a unifying force, has split along regional lines, with local bosses defending local interests in a difficult economic situation. The party's higher echelons are divided between those advocating new methods, and new people, to cope with the crisis and those resisting change.

Inflation is currently 80 per cent, annually, and the unemployment total is over one million. Living standards have fallen by nearly 50 per cent in five years. Many people are already living on or below the poverty line.

With an average monthly wage of only about \$100, a four-member family needs double that sum for food alone. As a result, many families in Belgrade, for example, cannot even afford money for rent, gas or electricity.

The party organised an open political debate among its 2.2 million members to discuss the problems, something unthinkable in Tito's era. The leadership was strongly criticised. Yet while some of the leaders admit that something must be done, no one seems ready to accept radical solutions.

Hamdija Ponderac, a senior Bosnian leader, said: "We are against those who want to change everything and those who wish to keep everything."

Many party members are disappointed at the lack of action and increasingly disinterested in the party. Six hundred thousand workers have left the party in the last decade and young people who make up 80 per cent of the unemployed seem similarly disillusioned.

In the 165-member policy-making Central Committee, only 5 per cent are workers.

The rest are politicians and managers representing their regions or industrial and business units. Their different and often opposing interests make it increasingly difficult for self-management to function properly. Even when consensus is reached, the solutions are by no means certain to be implemented.

Excessive decentralisation can lead to absurdities, such as a train travelling across Yugoslavia from Greece to Italy or Austria having to change engines five times — once for each republic.

Many people hope that the next party congress, due in June 1985, will change things. But the economic difficulties are piling up despite assistance from Western countries, including Britain.

There have, however, been

no violent protests, street demonstrations or large strikes. Decentralised Yugoslavia is no Poland. Few people would opt for a centrally-run authority and thus risk losing freedoms untouched in Communist Eastern Europe.

Last month's congress of Yugoslav writers, the first in 10 years, unanimously called for more freedom to criticise and suggest solutions, without fear of persecution. "We are fighting for freedom and democracy and against those struggling to preserve their power and privileges within a totalitarian regime," one claimed.

Such statements are not always received with benevolence. While the leadership does not appear to be over-worked, Mr. Ponderac warned: "We shall use a strong hand if our system is jeopardised."

The Scottish Scene in Country Life

Every aspect of the good Scottish life is featured in Country Life's special number. Book your name. Reproduction is a superb report. And it's the ideal medium for reaching the top cross-section of opinion leaders. Look up to Scotland... for great results.

Contact Martin Gates
01-261 6336

DARK NIGHT OF THE SCARECROW

Who administers justice when the law doesn't? Who looks after the victim's rights when he's accused, hunted and shot to pieces. Wrongly. What dark forces can you call on to right a wrong? On Tuesday at 9.00 Marlon's sister, Jocelyn Brando, plays a mother who believes in an eye for an eye.

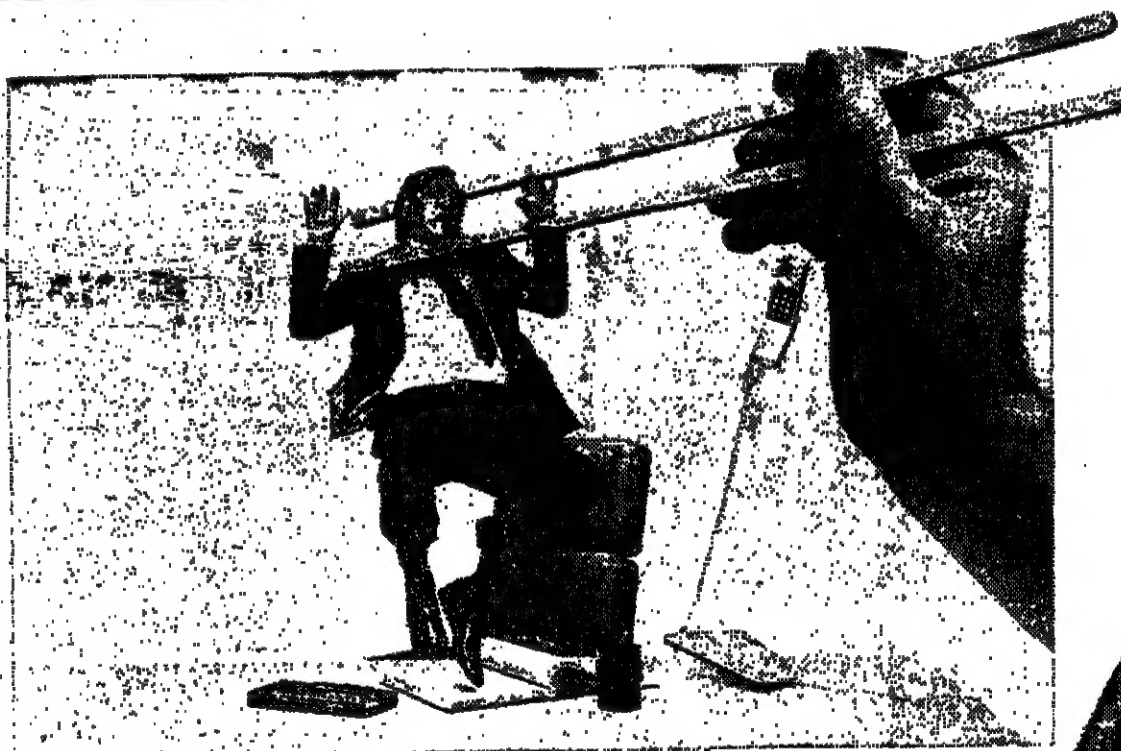
You won't nod off in front of the box with this on.

DIVERSE REPORTS

Tonight's report at 8.30 will open your eyes. A French TV crew takes a surreptitious look at the streets of Shanghai.

They discover a seamier side to the changing face of China. That 'business deals' are replacing communist ideals. Micros are more popular than Mao. And a thriving black market is the best way to get anything.

If the government decides to pick up the new entrepreneurs, could they all be for the chop?



TERROR

What's it like behind the mask of terrorism?

Who pays the gunmen, while their victims pay with their lives?

And who - if anyone - gives orders in a reign of terror?

On Saturday night at 9.15 the horrifying truth about terrorism could cause you sleepless nights.



AN UNSUITABLE JOB FOR A WOMAN

**What's it like to be a woman
in a man's world?**

Especially when it's the
hard-nosed world of private-eyes.

In Friday night's film at 11.30, Pippa Guard plays a young woman who takes charge of a seedy London detective agency. And plunges into a black fairy tale of obsession, revenge and bloody murder. Guaranteed to keep you awake.



WEBS AND OTHER WONDERS.

What do you fear most?

Is it something with eight black hairy legs crawling all over you?

Does this make your hair stand on end? Do your palms get hot and clammy? Do you break out in a cold sweat?

On Sunday at 7.15 Malcolm Penny looks at the spiders of the world and shows us how your nightmares survive.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON



Israelis lose out to Arab enemy

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

Israel's armed forces are losing their traditional edge over the Arab enemy because of an increasing shortage of engineers and technicians needed to operate and maintain complex modern military equipment, according to an official government report.

The report by the state comptroller, expresses acute concern about a 22 per cent lack of qualified technical manpower in crucial operational fields throughout the various armed services and warns that the gap is likely to widen in the future. The shortage — especially of electronics experts — is already damaging the ability of the Israel Defence Forces to develop weapons systems, it says.

The report, which provides a rare glimpse of the state of the IDF, states that the manpower shortfall in 1984 was 10 per cent in the air force, 33 per cent in the navy, 30 per cent in the ordnance corps, 40 per cent in the communications corps and 23 per cent in intelligence.

The comptroller also found that general shortages of academic personnel in the military had been growing since 1979 and will increase if the intelligence corps, for example, is known to be suffering from a lack of Arabic speakers.

By 1992, the comptroller states, there will be a shortage of between 18,000 and 23,000 engineers and technicians if no increases in military needs above those now projected are made.

The report notes that in 1980, 2,700 Israelis were awarded degrees in science, mathematics, engineering and architecture compared to more than 16,000 in Syria, Egypt, Jordan and Iraq — the countries viewed as potential participants in a future war against the Jewish state.

The comptroller's report is the first of its kind to be published since last year's large cuts in the defence budget.

Israeli spy released on parole

From our Correspondent in Jerusalem

Israel's longest serving Jewish political prisoner, convicted over 13 years ago for spying for Syria, was released from jail yesterday after being granted a one-third reduction of his original sentence.

The prisoner, Mr. Udi Advi, aged 44, was freed from Ramle jail in central Israel on condition that he refrain from any political activity. He said that he regretted his crime and was thrilled to be free.

Mr. Advi's involvement in a joint-Jewish-Arab espionage group grew out of his activity in one of the fringe anti-Zionist and Marxist groups that flourished in Israel in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The Shin Bet security service, Israel's equivalent of MI5, is known to have opposed his early release.

In Damascus, three Syrians convicted of spying for Israel were hanged at dawn yesterday.

The identities of the three were listed on white paper sheets pinned to their bodies as Tewfik Abbas, Farid Darwish and Muhieddin Hourani.

A Syrian military court found them guilty of "passing classified information and jeopardising the state security to the Israeli enemy," military sources said.

The bodies were left dangling from the gallows for three hours for the public to see.

Threat of resignation by Peres

From our Correspondent in Jerusalem

The Israeli Prime Minister, Mr. Shimon Peres, yesterday threatened to resign if a parliamentary committee failed to approve a proposed tax reform. Mr. Peres was not expected to carry out the threat, but it was seen as an expression of his growing impatience with the difficulty of pushing through long overdue economic measures.

"If it is impossible to work together, my responsibility is to go to the President and inform him it is impossible to form the State like this," the Prime Minister told members of the Knesset finance committee.

New York affidavit reveals

Indian revolution sought

Sikh plotters planned to blow up atomic plants

From Mark Tran in Washington

The Sikhs who allegedly plotted to kill the Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, during his trip to the US next month also planned to blow up nuclear plants in India. An affidavit filed in New York yesterday revealed an ambitious plot not only to kill Mr. Rajiv but to "cause the revolutionary overthrow of the government of India."

The FBI uncovered the plot by infiltrating an agent into the Sikh group. Referred to as "A," he has received a Congressional Medal of Honour for his service in Vietnam and is an expert on guerrilla warfare.

Posing as an Alabamian with expertise in explosives and weapons, "A" was introduced to two of the plotters in a New York hotel room in January.

The two Sikhs told him that they represented a group whose purpose was to cause the revolutionary overthrow of the Indian Government by creating a loss of confidence in addition to nuclear power plants, the group planned to bomb bridges, hotels, and government buildings.

At the same meeting, the two men asked the agent to provide their group with military training in the use of automatic weapons, chemical warfare and urban guerrilla tactics. They also asked for plastic explosives and machineguns to be smuggled into India for the group's use and false US passports to facilitate entry and exit from India. The meeting was monitored with electronic surveillance equipment.

There were two other meetings. In February the agent asked how much explosives the group needed. According to the affidavit, one Sikh replied: "Enough to blow up a bridge the size of the Triboro, Brooklyn or Queensboro bridge and also enough for a large 36-storey building."

He went on to specify the type of machineguns the group wanted and said eventually grenade launchers would be needed.

At a third meeting in April, the two men drove the agent to a location in New Jersey that had been allegedly chosen as a training ground. The agent was told that they were looking for someone to assassinate Mr. Gandhi during his trip to the US. They selected one of three plans suggested by "A" and decided to start training on May 6.

A Sikh, Mr. Gupartap Birk, was arrested on May 4 and indicated along with four other Sikhs for another murder attempt — on the Chief Minister of Maryland, Mr. Bligh, during his stay in New Orleans.

In Washington, Mr. Rajwant Singh, a spokesman for the National Association of Sikhs, condemned the alleged plot.

"The Sikh community in America has nothing to do with this," he said.

Leader comment, page 12

The security services yesterday continued their investigation of the terror bombings that killed more than 80 civilians in Delhi and three neighbouring states at the weekend. One of three alleged Sikh terrorists arrested in the capital died in hospital on Monday, apparently as a result of police torture.

The Indian Express reported yesterday that the suspect, Mohinder Singh, had serious injuries all over his body. Earlier on Sunday, he had been brought to the hospital for treatment of minor injuries sustained during arrest. "He was seen coming in, walking," the newspaper reported, "and he left walking."

When the other two Sikhs accused were produced before a magistrate for remand on Monday afternoon, the police told the court that Mohinder Singh had been taken to hospital because he was refusing food and water.

The principal suspect, Kartar Singh Narang, a 54-year-old lawyer, was assisted into court with his hands and feet chained. Reporters saw him slump when some of the police let go.

had been captured inside Afghanistan and were being held by guerrillas at a camp just south of Peshawar, broke free from their guards and took over an ammunition store at the camp.

They were demanding to be taken out of guerrilla hands and handed over to Pakistani authorities, or the International Red Cross — exactly what Mr. Smirnov said the incident proved that Pakistan was involved in this war in Afghanistan and that Pakistani soil was used by Afghan guerrillas.

The Soviet envoy also alleges that Pakistani defence personnel were involved in the incident. "We have all the details, we even know the names," he claimed.

Mr. Smirnov says he has received no response from President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq.

He demanded the names of the Soviet prisoners and the return of their bodies. But that might be difficult as the prisoners were "blown to bits" according to reliable Afghan exile sources.

In the April 27 incident, up to 12 Soviet and about as many Afghan prisoners who

issues to be settled," the spokesman said. "The two sides still maintain contact and continue discussions on the matter."

Plans for the Shanghai visit, which would be the first by the US navy to a Chinese port since the Communist victory in 1949, foundered last month when senior Chinese officials said that Washington had undertaken not to send nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered ships.

The US, which refuses as a matter of policy to say which ships carry nuclear arms, quickly issued a denial.

Port calls discussed

Issues to be settled

ports to facilitate entry and exit from India. The meeting was monitored with electronic surveillance equipment.

There were two other meetings. In February the agent asked how much explosives the group needed. According to the affidavit, one Sikh replied: "Enough to blow up a bridge the size of the Triboro, Brooklyn or Queensboro bridge and also enough for a large 36-storey building."

He went on to specify the type of machineguns the group wanted and said eventually grenade launchers would be needed.

At a third meeting in April, the two men drove the agent to a location in New Jersey that had been allegedly chosen as a training ground. The agent was told that they were looking for someone to assassinate Mr. Gandhi during his trip to the US. They selected one of three plans suggested by "A" and decided to start training on May 6.

A Sikh, Mr. Gupartap Birk, was arrested on May 4 and indicated along with four other Sikhs for another murder attempt — on the Chief Minister of Maryland, Mr. Bligh, during his stay in New Orleans.

In Washington, Mr. Rajwant Singh, a spokesman for the National Association of Sikhs, condemned the alleged plot.

"The Sikh community in America has nothing to do with this," he said.

Leader comment, page 12

The security services yesterday continued their investigation of the terror bombings that killed more than 80 civilians in Delhi and three neighbouring states at the weekend. One of three alleged Sikh terrorists arrested in the capital died in hospital on Monday, apparently as a result of police torture.

The Indian Express reported yesterday that the suspect, Mohinder Singh, had serious injuries all over his body. Earlier on Sunday, he had been brought to the hospital for treatment of minor injuries sustained during arrest. "He was seen coming in, walking," the newspaper reported, "and he left walking."

When the other two Sikhs accused were produced before a magistrate for remand on Monday afternoon, the police told the court that Mohinder Singh had been taken to hospital because he was refusing food and water.

The principal suspect, Kartar Singh Narang, a 54-year-old lawyer, was assisted into court with his hands and feet chained. Reporters saw him slump when some of the police let go.

had been captured inside Afghanistan and were being held by guerrillas at a camp just south of Peshawar, broke free from their guards and took over an ammunition store at the camp.

They were demanding to be taken out of guerrilla hands and handed over to Pakistani authorities, or the International Red Cross — exactly what Mr. Smirnov said the incident proved that Pakistan was involved in this war in Afghanistan and that Pakistani soil was used by Afghan guerrillas.

The Soviet envoy also alleges that Pakistani defence personnel were involved in the incident. "We have all the details, we even know the names," he claimed.

Mr. Smirnov says he has received no response from President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq.

He demanded the names of the Soviet prisoners and the return of their bodies. But that might be difficult as the prisoners were "blown to bits" according to reliable Afghan exile sources.

In the April 27 incident, up to 12 Soviet and about as many Afghan prisoners who

issues to be settled," the spokesman said. "The two sides still maintain contact and continue discussions on the matter."

Plans for the Shanghai visit, which would be the first by the US navy to a Chinese port since the Communist victory in 1949, foundered last month when senior Chinese officials said that Washington had undertaken not to send nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered ships.

The US, which refuses as a matter of policy to say which ships carry nuclear arms, quickly issued a denial.

Port calls discussed

Issues to be settled



Members of Mr Andries Raditsela's family and hundreds of union members cram the Methodist church in Tsakane yesterday for his funeral service

Bombs hit home town of dead SA union leader

From Patrick Laurence in Tsakane

Thousands of blacks yesterday converged on a tiny church in this little known township to pay homage to Mr Andries Raditsela, the trade union leader who died of brain injuries last week after being released from detention by police.

There was, however, little response from black workers in South Africa, to a call by trade unions for them to either stay away for the whole day or to participate in a two-hour stoppage.

An exception was Mr Raditsela's hometown of Brakpan where many black workers stayed home and there were three bomb explosions. The targets were government buildings, the police quarters, the commissioner's court where black influx control officers are tried and the office of the messenger of the court. No body was hurt in the blasts.

At Tsakane, hundreds of blacks, many wearing T-shirts and caps proclaiming their allegiance to trade unions and political organisations, squeezed into the small Methodist church.

Several thousand more gathered in the church yard outside, overlooking on to the nearby streets and even on to the roofs of houses across the road. Relayed by loud-speakers,

the speeches from inside the church boomed into the massed ranks of blacks.

As the crowd shouted their approval of speakers who denounced apartheid and the detention without trial, armoured vehicles, carrying police and soldiers, rolled by regularly only two blocks away.

The president of the 130,000-member Federation of South African trade unions Mr Chris Dlamini referred to the police and soldiers in his funeral oration. They were forced to occupy the townships because the whites had "stolen our country," he told the crowd.

Bishop Simeon Nkomo, Suffragan Anglican bishop of Johannesburg, appealed to blacks to use the death of Mr Raditsela as an opportunity to end quarrels in their own ranks. "Unless we have reconciliation we will commit suicide," he said.

Tsakane was the scene of fierce fighting last week between migrant workers housed in barracks-like hostels and family-based residents. Sixteen blacks died in the fratricidal strife.

Several speakers blamed the police for inciting the migrant workers against township folk. Their accusations drew shouts of approval.

Interspersed with the strident tones of overtly political speeches and the chorused cries of political slogans were softly-sung hymns.

The display of black power in Tsakane, however, was not laced with hostility to the local and international pressmen. The black solidarity at Tsakane, however, seemed not to be matched by the response of black workers generally.

Reports of South African transport services and bus companies pointed to a near normal inflow of black workers. Major employer organisations similarly reported minimal disruption of production schedules.

Even allowing for some selective perception by these organisations — trade union spokesmen were at the funeral and not in a position to give an immediate assessment — the response certainly fell far short of the massive stay-away by workers last November.

Police reported six more deaths from persistent anti-apartheid rioting in black townships and several clashes between police and rock-throwing blacks. In the vast Soweto township, stone-throwing broke out in several neighbourhoods and buses stopped running into the township, forcing thousands of commuters to walk home. Police used birdshot and rubber bullets in some cases.

South African policy is to try to remove guerrillas from the banned African National Congress from neighbouring states. The two men, one of them a journalist, were advised to leave the country for their own safety.

Thousands were trapped in the country when a Nigerian ultimatum to 700,000 illegal immigrants to leave their status or leave expired on Friday and the country's land borders were closed. About half the immigrants were Ghanaians.

More than 400 vehicles packed with immigrants drove back to the Nigeria-Benin border from Lagos on Monday, but were stopped from leaving the country by the Nigerian army.

The police chief at the ports, Mr Abdullahi Jika, said that four ships had left in the past two days, two were due out yesterday and he hoped three more would leave today. About 4,500 people left by sea on Monday and yesterday's target was 6,000.

Thousands were trapped in the country when a Nigerian ultimatum to 700,000 illegal immigrants to leave their status or leave expired on Friday and the country's land borders were closed. About half the immigrants were Ghanaians.

More than 400 vehicles packed with immigrants drove back to the Nigeria-Benin border from Lagos on Monday, but were stopped from leaving the country by the Nigerian army.

The police chief at the ports, Mr Abdullahi Jika, said that four ships had left in the past two days, two were due out yesterday and he hoped three more would leave today. About 4,500 people left by sea on Monday and yesterday's target was 6,000.

Thousands were trapped in the country when a Nigerian ultimatum to 700,000 illegal immigrants to leave their status or leave expired on Friday and the country's land borders were closed. About half the immigrants were Ghanaians.

More than 400 vehicles packed with immigrants drove back to the Nigeria-Benin border from Lagos on Monday, but were stopped from leaving the country by the Nigerian army.

The police chief at the ports, Mr Abdullahi Jika, said that four ships had left in the past two days, two were due out yesterday and he hoped three more would leave today. About 4,500 people left by sea on Monday and yesterday's target was 6,000.

Harare works 'farming miracle'

By Marlene Dennis

ZIMBABWE is fast becoming the agricultural showpiece of Africa with a bumper harvest expected this year of maize, coffee, cotton and tobacco. The yields may be 15 per cent higher than those of last year.

There are three sectors in the industry: large commercial white farmers; small communal black farmers; and the newest group, the peasant farmers who have been allocated land under government resettlement schemes.

Perhaps the most remarkable development is the increase in the communal sector's output which at 300 per cent up on last year is three times larger than that of the more established commercial farmers.

Half of this year's expected \$2100 million (\$51 million) income from cotton will be produced by the communal farms. There are two main reasons for the massive increase: rains came late last year, breaking a three-year cycle of drought, and the government's total commitment to the small farmer.

The expected combined earnings from tobacco, cotton, coffee, and maize will amount to about \$2.1 billion more than half of which will come as much-needed foreign exchange.

Zimbabwe's success story is often attributed to luck. Rain has improved the farmers' lot, but the British-born Agricultural Minister Senator Denis Norman, said recently: "We struggled for three years to maintain all systems and even last year we had a record tobacco and cotton crop, and we produced nearly twice as much maize as was predicted in the early part of the season."

"This year we could not have had the kinds of returns which I am predicting if we had gone ahead and planted, fertilised and cultivated the crops."

He said that many farmers are still labouring under enormous debts accrued during the dry period, but added: "The Government, through the bank"

HARARE: The five-year term of the country's first Parliament ended yesterday, paving the way for general elections within the next few weeks. Elections were to have been held in March, but were postponed for technical reasons. — Reuter.

ing organisations, has still supported agriculture, even through the drought. There has been a lot of effort from all sectors to enable us to come up with these figures."

Even though the drought has broken for most southern African countries, Zimbabwe is still exporting maize to the region.

Senator Norman plus for Zimbabwean farmers is a \$US70-million beef deal with the EEC. It has taken nearly four years to eradicate foot and mouth disease, involving \$211 million for an elaborate fencing scheme. "We have been waiting to sell to the EEC because of the high prices. It is 3½ times more valuable than any other market at the moment."

To cope with the increase in production, Senator Norman has had to increase the number of grain and cotton depots throughout the country.

Agriculture extension services will also have to be expanded to ensure that every farmer has access to the latest tools and cultivation methods.

At a time when cloudless skies are doing incalculable damage to many African countries, Zimbabwe appears to have escaped the worst. The country's livestock, with 500,000 cattle estimated to have died from starvation, and a further 100,000 are slaughtered prematurely.

The drought has taught many lessons. Zimbabwe's national larder was almost eaten bare and new efforts are being made to build up stockpiles. Senator Norman wants to see at least nine months of food put away, and if possible a year's. Farmers are being encouraged to move away from only growing maize and into crop rotation, particularly using more drought-resistant crops like sorghum, pearl and finger millet.

Research is being stepped up into methods of moisture retention in soil, and traditional African grazing habits being made to work anywhere, any time — are being replaced with less haphazard grazing.

Irrigation and the search for underground water supplies is now a priority of Robert Mugabe's Government. All farmers, large and small, have been offered low-interest loans for irrigation schemes.

Meanwhile, other African countries look on with envy as Zimbabwe's farming story leaps from one success to the next.

Passengers already on board the Ghanian ship, Bta River, at Apapa port complained yesterday that new arrivals were being allowed to travel free while they had paid their fare to Ghana.

On the dockside, people queued, bowls in hand, for free food, the first meal in days for some. — Reuter.

Lagos: Illegal immigrants ordered out of the country but stranded when land borders were closed last week were being sent home yesterday by ship.

But others were expected to face further delays in leaving after they failed to drive out by road on Monday.

The police chief at the ports, Mr Abdullahi Jika, said that four ships had left in the past two days, two were due out yesterday and he hoped three more would leave today. About 4,500 people left by sea on Monday and yesterday's target was 6,000.

Thousands were trapped in the country when a Nigerian ultimatum to 700,000 illegal immigrants to leave their status or leave expired on Friday and the country's land borders were closed. About half the immigrants were Ghanaians.

More than 400 vehicles packed with immigrants drove back to the Nigeria-Benin border from Lagos on Monday, but were stopped from leaving the country by the Nigerian army.

The police chief at the ports, Mr Abdullahi Jika, said that four ships had left in the past two days, two were due out yesterday and he hoped three more would leave today. About 4,500 people left by sea on Monday and yesterday's target was 6,000.

Thousands were trapped in the country when a Nigerian ultimatum to 700,000 illegal immigrants to leave their status or leave expired on Friday and the country's land borders were closed. About half the immigrants were Ghanaians.

More than 400 vehicles packed with immigrants drove back to the Nigeria-Benin border from Lagos on Monday, but were stopped from leaving the country by the Nigerian army.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bokassa memoirs to be cut

A FRENCH court ruled yesterday that passages concerning the private life of the former president, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, printed in memoirs by the deposed Central African emperor Jean-Bédel Bokassa, should be deleted.

Judge Pierre Oral said that some passages of the book, not on sale yet, infringed on Mr Giscard's private life. "If a political fight is to take place in the framework of press freedom it should not refer to any fact or even directly linked to the intimacy of private and family life," he said.

Mr Giscard had taken the publishers to court over what his lawyer called "extraneous and even grotesque" passages about him.

The lawyer for the publishers, Carrere, said his client would comply with the ruling. The cuts involve nine pages of the 200-page book. — Reuter.

Cameroon leader visits Britain

PRESIDENT Paul Biya of the Cameroon Republic has commenced an official visit to Britain. Yesterday he inspected a guard of honour in Whitehall, luncheon with the Queen, and held brief discussions with Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe. The main talks come today at Downing Street, followed by a government luncheon. — Reuter.

The former French West African colony still leans heavily on France for its industrial equipment and takes 44 per cent of its imports from the French.

Marine's stand

AN ARMED US marine blocked access to his embassy in Oslo for 15 hours on Monday before giving himself up. Officials said that the guard had been under great emotional stress recently. He was taken out of Norway late on Monday. — Reuter.

Open access

SINGAPORE is to scrap a policy giving priority school admission to children of graduate mothers — part of a scheme to raise the birth rate among graduates. The policy, initiated by the Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, was generally blamed for a drastic reduction in the share of votes of the ruling People's Action Party in elections last December. — Reuter.

Pole retracts

A POLE accused of killing nine women and attempting to murder 11 others has withdrawn statements he made during interrogation, Warsaw newspapers said yesterday. Wojciech Tuchnowski, aged 38, last week asked for a sex change operation to prevent him being a danger to society again. — Reuter.

Flogging delayed

PROTESTS by Pakistani women have forced the authorities to delay the public flogging of a Christian woman for breaching the Islamic law on adultery. The chief minister of Sindh province has ordered postponement of the public flogging. Her appeals are examined. — Reuter.

Rape's reward

A BARCELONA court sentenced a man to 592 years' imprisonment yesterday on 40 counts of rape, two attempted rapes and seven indecent assaults. Spanish law will ensure that Francisco Lopez Malillo, aged 23, and known as the Rapist of Ensanche, will be hanged after 30 years. — Reuter.

Karpov wants...

THE WORLD chess champion, Anatoly Karpov, has asked for his title match against Gary Kasparov to be replayed in Moscow. Karpov has offered to organise the September rematch. Karpov also has asked the governing body to provide a main referee and two assistant referees of Soviet nationality. — Reuter.

Khmer assault

KHMER ROUGE guerrillas attacked a refugee camp inside Thailand before dawn yesterday, killing two women and injuring six other Kampuchean. Thai military officers are checking reports that the incident resulted from conflicts between Khmer Rouge leaders about control of the camp's population of 37,000 civilians. — Reuter.

Priest gaoled

A YUGOSLAV Franciscan priest has been gaoled for 40 days for denouncing the late President Tito while hearing confessions. Ranko Juric, aged 50, chastised parishioners in the western town of Mramor for having portraits of the dead leader in their homes. The newspaper, Politika said. — Reuter.

It's the Cup Final on Saturday: how many British women will suffer at the hands of their football-loving men? Christopher Reed reports on the American experience

The husbands who give blow-by-blow accounts of the big match

THE Wembley terraces and the streets may not see violence at this Saturday's Cup Final, but according to experience in California the threat will certainly be carried out in another place: the home.

Clinics and refuges for battered women in the San Francisco Bay area, where a local team has won the Super Bowl American football final three times in five years, have noticed that calls increase after the match. The sport is much rougher than soccer, but British football crowds are more violent than Americans.

Statistics on the phenomenon are hard to come by as no scientific survey has been made. But in 1982, a women's refuge in Oakland which averaged between seven and ten calls on Sundays (US match day), received 20 on Super Bowl Sunday. Another clinic in San Francisco took no records but reporting that "the phone rang off the hook" earlier this year when the San Francisco Forty Niners won.

At another clinic, they observed that a normal weekend's crisis line elicited about 15 calls. After the 1984 final there were 32. The correlation was first noticed in 1981

when the Oakland Raiders won and calls doubled. Opinions differ over whether it's worse for the woman if the man's team wins or loses. Losing was worse for Rana Lee, who now produces a monthly radio programme in California on domestic violence, and was a victim of football beatings during her three-year marriage. She recalled: "I love football, but I couldn't root for my own team because right away that would cause trouble. I was OK if I rooted for his team, or as long as they won. Otherwise..."

Dr Christopher Hatcher, a clinical psychologist at a San

Francisco psychiatric institute, thinks that a man whose team wins is more likely to become violent. "There's a need to identify with the winner. It makes him a winner too. If the woman chooses that time to do or say anything which makes him feel less of a winner, violence may be the result."

A clinic Executive in Oakland disagreed. She believes that a loss hurt a male fan's view of himself and the masculine ideal. Defeat sets off a feeling of powerlessness and he compensates by wielding power against a woman.

It is important to emphasise that nobody who has studied

domestic violence believes that football or any rough sport creates violence in a man who is not already prone. It serves rather as a catalyst for the woman battering type or for men who feel hostile to women but have not yet expressed it violently.

Psychology Professor Bruce Ogilvie, of San Jose State University, said part of the trouble could lie with men whose "only ego-sustaining experience in life" was identification with an athletic team. "What is sadder than seeing your alter-ego collapse," he asked, "the great danger is in seeking to fulfil oneself through an artificial

identification with a team. When it fails the rage is childlike, a tantrum."

Unfortunately it is more brutal. Most observers agree that drink plays an important and destructive part. An afternoon of televised football, slumped in an armchair, a cooler full of beer by his side is a stereotype of millions of American males — who, it is estimated, are involved with 14 million US women in long-term physically abusive relationships.

Opinions differ again on how important the football phenomenon is. According to Richard Gelles, author of six

books on domestic violence, militant feminists feel that dwelling on the violence potentialises the wider issue of brutality against women. His thesis was supported by inquiries at Bay area centres for battered women. The more militantly feminist, the less they wished to discuss the problem. The most militant denied its existence, a reaction offering little consolation for women who do believe violent sports have provoked a man to assault them.

Nobody, however, seems to know what to do about it. Television can hardly be

banned, and there is no referee in the living-room. Leaving home on the day in question is seen only as a short-term evasion. Susan Hornstein, of the Western Centre on Domestic Violence, said: "There are other dangerous times, too. After Christmas, for example. If you leave at those times, then you are into periodic runaway. You have to cease the relationship or physically remove yourself until your partner is getting help and is in control of himself. Otherwise you are only delaying what is likely to get worse — and you can't tiptoe around all year long."



Bristolian devotees: pictures by Julie Phipps

'I can determine my life now; I do not feel at the mercy of my own negativity. I am beginning to see myself as I am.'
Nigel Wigmore listens to the chants and self-revelations of a group of Bristol Buddhists

Eavesdropping on another world

IMAGINE a bird's eye view of a rich tract of Britain's green and pleasant: you have left behind the smoky environs of the city and flown west, across the Berkshire Downs and into the mellow fruitfulness of Wiltshire. At Bristol, you swoop down and perch on the windward edge of a house tucked below the city's attractive Royal York Crescent.

You gaze absently through the window. There, on a sitting room floor that bows perceptibly with the character of the house, you see a group of women. They are kneeling before a Buddhist altar studded with beads and chanting Nam-myoh-rengo-kyo. It's loud and repetitive to the uninitiated. It seems to go on for hours. Imagine your surprise.

Nothing surprises the British more than the unconventional. The conventional they take in great dollops, like glass spoonfuls of cod liver oil: the unusual, like British women — no different outwardly from the next person — practising Buddhism, is harder to swallow.

Indeed, there is a great suspicion of anything that smacks of the mystical: the whispers of "brainwashing"; the fear of a Moonie-like coup of entrapment of the hearts and minds of an unknown, and presumably growing, number of British people. But these particular women have no such qualms. They would

argue that by following this strand of Japan's post-war Buddhist revival, they have acquired an individual freedom of expression, not the opposite.

Certainly, the chanting is a little weird. You hop about on the windward edge. This is all a bit unnerving. Had it been a coffee morning or a gathering of young mothers with toddlers — what one might expect to see — you would have flown off again without a second thought. But instead you do something very un-British: you stay awhile and eavesdrop.

A child lounges on a sofa. She is quite used to this: Gongyo — the practice of chanting — is a daily ritual. Her mother, Sarah Garrett, kneels closest to the Gohonzon. She has practised Nichiren Shoshu, the orthodox school of the founder, Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism, for the past seven years; behind her are Angela Johnson, a psychiatric nurse, who has been practising for 11 years and Sue Chudley, an artist, who was drawn to chanting two years ago.

Their voices blend, their hands wring the beads, one always keeping the chant going while the others might pause momentarily for breath. Chanting has a real, physical presence as well as being a psychological tool for those taking part. The room

seems to vibrate. At a higher pitch, the intensity of the voices might shatter the windows.

Sarah Garrett explained how she came to Buddhism. There was a good deal of insecurity in her life. She was 23, expecting her second child and the house was in dire need of renovation. The nature of her husband's job meant he was either in work or "resting". He chanted and Sarah says it was "either me doing it as well or...". So she went to a meeting and was "fascinated — it made great sense to me. It was common sense."

She expands upon her theme: "When I first started, I was not told you cannot drink, smoke, eat meat — the essence of this is that it is entirely up to you. What you get from chanting is that you learn what is right for your life. Although men, women and children practise this form of Buddhism, she believed it had special appeal to women. "There are so many things happening now, we are changing so much in society and we really have to challenge ourselves."

If you had arrived earlier, you would have heard her sister, Louise Ellis, who works as a journalist on a local newspaper, espousing the same cause. She has been practising for four and a half years.

She was, after high hopes, disillusioned with university. She had "played" with chanting for a couple of years but being the age she was, she wanted "instant enlightenment". But it took time to discipline herself to full commitment to the faith and to course daily chanting.

Louise says it has worked wonders for her. "I can determine my life now; I do not feel at the mercy of things going on around me or my own negativity. I am beginning to see myself as I am. You begin to see a much truer picture of yourself."

Angela Johnson, who has been a member of the sect longer than anyone else in this particular group, agreed that the main advantage of practising Gongyo was in eliminating "negative tendencies". But she stressed that the trick was to strike the right balance. In other words, there were no short cuts: positive thoughts through chanting did not mean instant success. Even after 11 years she did not see this rich vein drying up: she would go on chanting and therefore improving her life.

There was apparently no limit to what you might attain through chanting, Sarah said this might apply even to "earthly desires". Presumably there was no guarantee you would get it but Sarah says she has chanted for cash:

it was not, of course, a case of it suddenly raining money — more that chanting gave one the motivation to see these things through. According to Sarah, it works. Her circumstances have much improved.

There are 40 women and 24 men who practise Buddhism in the Bristol area. The accent is on small groups, to maintain the intimacy. The most common ground is the sitting room.

Louise Ellis said that Nichiren Shoshu attracted a cross-section of people: it broke down the class divisions we live and breathe in Britain. She said there were possibly more women because they are less sceptical.

Buddhism did not aim to disrupt. Unlike other religions, it does not oppose other cultural beliefs. Followers were encouraged, she said, to participate fully in their own country's culture — not just as a tourist.

"It is not about inhibiting anyone: it is not about becoming anything in particular." If you were a Scottish dancer, says Louise, you can still be a Scottish dancer practising Buddhism.

There was no question of anyone stealing her mind. "There is nothing phoney about this and it is definitely not brainwashing. If you want to do it — you do it. If I took me two years to come to terms with chanting. Nobody said

you must do it. Having been introduced to it, I just thought I would like to do it."

"For example, if there is someone you are having difficulty with, then through chanting you challenge that difficulty. We all have our negative and positive sides. I might think of myself as being slow at my job when really it is a matter of self-confidence. Through chanting I realise I can really do it."

Buddhism goes hand in glove with daily life and chanting brings out one's Buddha nature — the nature in all of us broken down into the four areas of compassion, courage, wisdom and life-force. It does not matter what your job or function is, says Louise: "You can create value in whatever you are doing. You count in the scheme of things."

From your reverie on the window ledge you suddenly notice the quiet, the chanting has stopped. Sarah Garrett says that the candles at the Gohonzon: the beads are put away and the women resume their seats.

Keen not to be noticed, you resume your journey. You reflect upon what you have seen and heard. If this private happening is meant to subconsciously a way of life you cannot for the life of you think how the British are famous for their eccentricity. You are reassured that everything is as it should be.

So now the whole effect on a summer's evening is of southern California coming east



AMERICAN DIARY

Linda Blandford

IT HAS finally come to pass. A cover story in New York magazine has christened this the Yupper West Side. "Fast fashion — flashy food — the new class." On Columbus Avenue, an avant-garde fashion collection called, "Do you understand English?" (featured: Katharine Hammett, Wendy Dagworthy, Culture Shock, etc) has been transfixing passers-by in the windows of the Charivari Boutique. ("Our stores," says the owner "are more of a charm bracelet than a chain".)

Charivari is soon moving on to Amsterdam Avenue with Charivariations: fashion and household objects. How odd that Browns of South Molton Street tried that combination in London years ago — and decided against it. Will it work here? We shall see. Charivariations will be just a few blocks from Amsterdam, the restaurant and singles bar, that is

jammed tight even on the rainiest Monday night. Imagine queuing under an umbrella for an hour for a plate of grilled chicken.

Two doors away, Piccolino has just opened: designer pasta, rough white walls, country tiled floor. All the people who never eat at home — and eating out is what separates the cheap from the Yuppies — now have their decorated palaces for gourmet pizzas and Mesquite-barbecued chicken. (No James, not mosquito). Shops are moving in that stock Miami Vice clothes. Miami Vice is the hit series about two Florida undercover policemen: they are played by some dinky male fluff dressed in pale, wrinkle-rich cottons. Another variation on gold-chain Los Angeles jiggles.

The whole effect on a summer's evening, as cafe tables stretch along the avenues, is of southern California coming east — the Valley on Columbus Avenue, Long Beach moves to Broadway. And, by the way, a neighbourhood is disappearing. It should be noted, truthfully, that most people think that is perfectly all right. The new Yuppies with their 50 per cent down co-op deposits (who can save \$250,000 in cash: legally, let alone nicely?) are seen as conservationists. They preserve buildings. Aesthetics first in the age of postmodernism.

Twenty blocks up the road at Columbia University, the anti-apartheid demonstration has ended quietly. Last week, the students moved away from their blockade of the entrance to Hamilton Hall, the placards came down. A letter drive is

planned instead. And university officials have made it quite clear that there are no intentions of withdrawing \$32.5 million worth of investment in South Africa.

It is a far cry from the 1968 radical campus upheaval. Take a look at a point of intersection at the very skyscrapers around that are nearing completion — the Park Belvedere on Columbus, the Montana on Broadway. Think back then to the famous 1967 manifesto from the students of Columbia's School of Architecture: "We oppose stylistic and empty form-making. We oppose architecture that is whimsical or for fun. We do not believe that the goal of architecture is to produce buildings as works of art. Aesthetics or social concerns? Nowadays money justifies all again — and there is nothing 'for fun' about it."

Right where the Yupper West Side meets Hudson River are 100 acres of the old Penn Central railway yards — the old wild West of New York, basking on the dense and ugly reaches of concrete behind Lincoln Center. At the moment, these acres are our breathing space — forlorn, desolate but at least low-lying. They have been bought up by wunderkind Donald Trump.

"Donald Trump and the Trump Organisation," reads the advertising, "look forward to creating one of the great developments anywhere in the world on the Penn Yards site." Take a trip to Trump Tower, folks, or to Trump Plaza: hail to the marbled halls of the garish towers beyond even Yuppiedom.

Trump has already, weeks later, let it be known that he plans to increase the announcement of his plans to \$400 million — to \$30 million — eventually — to renovate the 72nd Street IRT subway station. It is what is known as an "amenities package" — a developer gives the tenant part of his intended profit to the community and thus he gets to have the zoning laws changed for him. Higher, bigger, more overwhelming — all in return for a clean railway platform. Is it truly only a decade since New York was written off, threatened with bankruptcy? What a carry-on.

Naturally, now that there are elegant delis all over the YWS, it is even more fashionable to have to go down to Balducci's in the village to shop. (Balducci's is owned by band leader Peter Dinklage. He always says that when he dies he wants his ashes scattered over Balducci's). Striving for even more elegance, there are those who travel further — to SoHo's Dean and DeLuca (as in Joel Dean and Georgia DeLuca, featured in preppy glasses, sweat shirts and hair cuts on their mail order catalogue).

Dean and DeLuca is fresh, SoHo high tech. The wide French doors open on to the display of great rustic baskets piled with greens: fiddlehead ferns, Italian Rosa di Verona, miniature patty pans, fresh dill, rosemary, rabbit ears, sorrel, chervil, arugula, sugar snap peas, Belgian mache (this latter a mere \$5.50 a pound).

The Dean and DeLuca eleva-

tor travels up to the loft spaces above. Where once the sweatshops whirled and rats ran, where once artists bought \$50,000 spaces (but a few years ago), now there are half million dollar lofts, and faded movie stars creeping in under the "artists-only" residence clause. And here, whiskas bristling like the White Rabbit, comes Anthony Harvey of various prep schools. Sloane Street and R.A.D. back from his morning gym.

Harvey, of course, is a film director (Dutchman, Lion in Winter, Eagle's Wing, Players, etc). How English he still is and no wonder that after Lion in Winter, he turned down Cabaret, Love Story and The Godfather. It is branded on the English in America — this fear of failure but of success. And after all these years in New York, he is talking of moving back to England.

In this most peaceful part of the city, red cardinals play outside his windows, there is almost total stillness. And yet he yearns for home, for "the primroses pushing up, the violets coming up on railway banks, the distant cuckoo."

A church bell tolls somewhere — but this is SoHo. "Ah, you can light a fire here," he says, "sit in front of it and feel you're in the country. But on Saturdays and Sundays, charabancs of people come now to the streets, they sit on doorsteps. The noise is enormous, there are squashed pies, bottles of beer, the whole place has gone..."

So, it happens to the West Side, to SoHo and, yes, doubtless to Sussex, too.

THE one common factor linking rich and poor, capitalist and communist countries, is the oppression of women. In spite of its proud boasts of sexual equality, the Soviet Union does not unlike this chain.

Feminists in the West may feel a romantic nostalgia for the red-beretted pioneers of the past who climbed on to tractors, picked up shovels and struggled alongside men to build a Marxist state. But Soviet Sisterhood, Barbara Holland (editor, Fourth Estate, £17.95), scrapes away the now-tarnished image of freedom, and a depressingly familiar picture of the position of Soviet women emerges.

The collection of essays vigorously rebuffs the insistence of Marx, Engels and Lenin that once capitalism is abolished then sexual equality is inevitable, and that to dwell upon it is to cling to bourgeois self-indulgence.

Each essay uses one aspect of Soviet life to enter the debate on the situation of its women and the gaping across the sharp divide between ideology and practice, one has a heart-sinking feeling that we could be anywhere.

For example, Lynne Atwood explores Soviet views on psychological sexual differences: the argument that innate, biologically-rooted

Msprint

traits are simply "potentials" which may be culturally transformed offers liberation from Freudian misogyny and patriarchal notions of femininity. But (and the buts of these essays are dominant and crushing) in actual fact education and culture reinforce rather than erode inequality.

Similarly, Maggie McAndrew's sceptical look at Soviet women's magazines, whose ostensible aim is to "produce a model of the world in people's consciousness," draws forth this conclusion: "Women's magazines are part of a complex ideological structure confronting Soviet women with the image of themselves as Superwomen, which is at some distance from the reality of most women's lives." And what does that remind you of?

Fifty-one per cent of the Soviet workforce is made up of women, but guess who does all the housework and looks after the children? And we only have to glance at the solid lines of elderly male look-alikes on our television screens to know who wields

real power in Moscow. The first organised feminists who challenged the fiction of equality were intimidated, harassed and eventually deported.

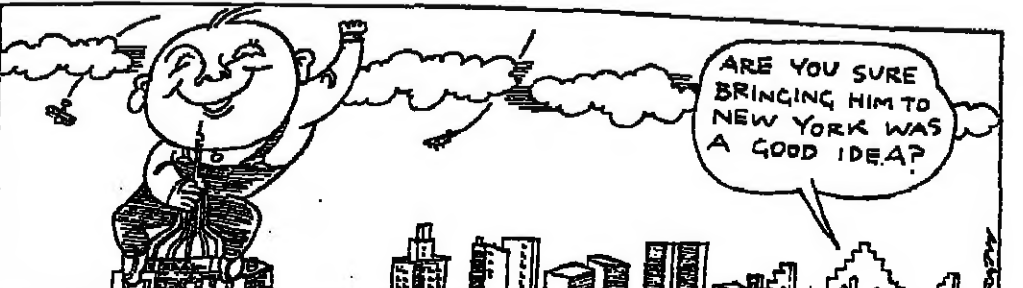
They confronted the male structure of power, and in language that rejected the "strange, fussy and moth-eaten" rhetoric of government, called out their manifesto: "Nothing changes by itself and we are convinced that no-one will help us unless we help ourselves by meeting together, by exchanging our experiences, and understanding them."

This could also be the manifesto of women in the West. Underneath Soviet Sisterhood's intellectual curiosity and cool analysis runs a real affection for the country, and for its women in particular. I wish I could say the same of Terry Bushell's account of life in Moscow as correspondent of the Morning Star. I can't.

In spite of living in Moscow for several years and marrying the Russian Lara, Marriage of Inconvenience (Deutsch, £8.95) skims the surface of a huge and fascinating country, scooping up a brash top layer and leaving the depths unplumbed and tantalising between tepid lines.

Nicci Gerrard

BABY By Michael Heath



Edward Greenfield
on new recordings
of a great Austrian
composer

Berg at his best

WITH musical centenaries and tercentenaries galore this year, the celebrations for the hundredth birthday of Alban Berg, youngest and shortest-lived of the Second Viennese School triumvirate, have been limited. But now Deutsche Grammophon with a unique corpus of Berg's recordings in its catalogue already, has come up with a ten-disc box covering virtually every work, large or small, that was ever published (DG 41 797-7).

When some years ago CBS issued a comparable comprehensive box of the music of Webern, I remember following through each finely wrought argument, Opus 1 to Opus 31 in order, ever-conscious of consistent development. Making the music of Berg into a planned cycle like that would be quite irrelevant. It is at once wilder, warmer and less consistent: these ten records emphasise the variety of inspiration from a composer who far more clearly than his colleagues remained at heart a romantic.

Just why that is so comes out in another Berg centenary issue, Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau accompanied by Arlbert Reimann sings 25 previously unknown songs which Berg wrote as a boy, mostly before meeting Schoenberg (HMV EL 27 0195 1). Bearing in mind how Berg developed, the wonder is that these teenage inspirations, charming in their lyrical directness, are stylistically so unsophisticated with Schumann and Brahms the main influences. Mahler occasionally, and with even Wagnerian chromaticism kept at bay.

It did not take long for the teaching of Schoenberg to have its impact, but Berg's individual style within the atonal triumvirate continued to owe something to that early romantic innocence. His Opus 1, the one-movement Piano Sonata he wrote at the age of 22, still sounds like romantic piano music rather than the product of a new movement.

Apply to the DG set Daniel Barenboim gives a reading of the Sonata that fully brings out its warm, Lieder qualities (even the key, B minor, the same as that of Liszt's Sonata). With later Berg too, I find the music not just more sympathetic but more intelligible, when a romantic approach is applied by the interpreter.

Even the two operas, Wozzeck and Lulu, come in performances conducted by Karl Böhm which brings out their links with the romantic operatic tradition rather than their modernity. This account of Wozzeck, with Fischer-Dieskau inappropriately but movingly noble in the name part and Evelyn Lear as Marie, is by far the best sung on record.

The format and presentation of the whole set is excellent with good notes and full texts. Paintings by Egon Schiele, well-reproduced, come on the front of each separate record-sleeve, with many good photographs on the reverse. Remarkably the whole set sells at just over £30, an excellent bargain.

The Annual argument

IT WOULD be churlish to accuse the new Hayward Annual of lacking identity. Hayward Annuals always lack identity. As this year's selector, the art dealer Nigel Greenwood, puts it in his catalogue: "the impression persists of a venue in search of an exhibition."

I would go further and describe the Arts Council's latest summer offering as a set of exhibits in search of a show. Henry Moore's noble and relaxed elmwood figure stares across at a stack of refuse arranged into a cube with obsessive care by Tony Cragg. Bridget Riley is given a room to herself. But so is Anthony Zych, who has just come out of college and who paints long, low landscapes of quite overwhelming moroseness.

Yet inside every fat Hayward Annual there is usually this one frankly signalling to be let out, and the new show is no exception. What makes this Annual's show-within-a-show particularly interesting is that it is clearly not the one which the selector claims to have given us.

Greenwood states that he has gone in search of "Britishness" in art. His intention was to provide a riposte from the home side to the American Festival which is about to overwhelm London. "I am not over fond of nationalism," he begins encouragingly.

"The capacity of a work of art to transcend its sources is one of its recurring aspects. So if we were to be exposed to all these American artists and to be subject to verbal interpretations of the American in art then why should this Hayward Annual not join in? Why should it not pose the

Hidden inside every Hayward Annual, writes Waldemar Januszczak, there is another, better show trying to get out

question is there a quality which could be called British?" In other words Nigel Greenwood is not over fond of nationalism but if the Yanks are doing it then we'll jolly well do it back.

So what is this Britishness that we have come here to admire, and where does it show itself? Not I think in the work of the Indian sculptor, Dhruva Mistry, who makes garish idols, sacred cows, curious animal/human hybrids of the kind that guard the doorways to Hindu temples. Nor in the secretive hollows and clearings of the forest photographed so atmospherically and sensitively by Thomas Joshua Cooper. He is an American.

Fred Wright is the painter of tough and unpleasant expanses of outback, bristling with cactus, as if the desert hadn't bothered to shave for a few days. Williams is an Australian as a thing. Perhaps the selector was imagining himself back in the schoolroom naturally assuming that all the national characteristics marked in red were British.

This is how we find, in the catalogue entry dealing with Henry Moore's magnificent reclining figure, half woman and half mountain range: "It guards the crossroads at which the man made and the natural converge. Mankind's existence is accepted without having to dominate his surroundings. Is that a peculiarly British resolve?" No Mr Greenwood I don't think it is. Neither I suspect does Rita Donaghy. She too is haunted by the relationship between the man-

made and the natural. In this case it is a map of Lough Neagh in Northern Ireland, which provides the backdrop across which the letter H dances like a macabre shadow puppet. Donaghy's eerie, apocalyptic paintings of the rape of the Irish landscape by the Blacks are among this exhibition's few obvious successes.

The different ways that British artists use, and respond to, the landscape is clearly the true subject of the Hayward's show within a show. In Henry Moore's art the landscape represents a comforting female presence. For Stephen Cox it is a thin layer of the present sprinkled across the deep romance of the past.

Even Gilbert and George can be accused of exploring the relationship between the figure and the landscape in a gigantic drawing called Shrubberies, from Nigel Greenwood's private collection, last seen at the Hayward's New Art show of 1972. The Living Sculptures show themselves standing in a huge overgrown park, looking rather lost and vulnerable, like the babes in the wood. It is a plaintive image which harks back to Gainsborough's parkland lovers, and further, to Nicholas Hilliard's famous swain, pinning for love among the rose bushes.

Francis Bacon comprehensively upsets the pastoral mood with his image of Van Gogh coming back from the Golds after a day's painting. Dark in colour and sunshine, Bacon's image cele-

brates not the peace of the landscape but its swirling, sensuous power, its threat. A similar set of sensations accompany you into the impressive room given over to Ian McKeever whose paintings plunge you deep into the thick undergrowth at the base of the hill, or take you high up into the mountains to Turner country, where only a chamois could feel truly comfortable.

No one could accuse the new Hayward Annual of lacking variety. Not only does it mix up subject-matter and approaches but it also confronts abstract artists with figurative ones, Bridget Riley with Francis Bacon, established painters with complete newcomers. Some are given entire rooms to themselves; others are confined to single examples. (In the case of Steven Campbell this is surely a serious imbalance.)

Another of the exhibition's strong points is the care and attention it pays to making analogies between images and building up correspondences between artists. Thus the Hindu animal gods made by Dhruva Mistry are compared to the grinning human faces drawn so fiercely by Victor Welling. A dazzling likeness of a river bog made out of mud and straw by the excellent Nicola Hicks finds itself surrounded by the suitably ugly Australian landscapes of Fred Williams.

But in the end you are left with the feeling that no idea or theme has been carried through to a conclusion. A selector's whimsy is not a powerful enough cement to hold all these different components together. And so we must chalk this down as yet another failed Hayward Annual. Will we ever see one that succeeds?

The Hayward Annual until July 7.



IN SEARCH OF A SHOW: Dhruva Mistry's Regarding Guardians — at the Hayward. Picture by S. Hamilton-West

GALLERIES BRIEFING

Degas as Printmaker (Hayward Gallery until July 7): Only four of Degas's prints were intended for publication in large public editions. The rest of his etchings and lithographs were produced for the private delectation of Degas and his friends. This ambitious show thus lifts the curtain on a largely forgotten area of his activity. Extravagantly comprehensive, it provides extraordinary insights into his working methods and, above all, into the lengths he would go to achieve his apparently spontaneous effects. A splendid selection of bronzes counteracts the show's rather scholarly air. Meanwhile Degas's famous view of a sad prostitute in a café, L'Absinthe, has been lent to the Courtauld Institute.

Lee Quinones (Riverside Studios until June 16): Quinones, plain Lee to admirers and subway police alike, began his career as a tearaway graffiti artist spraying the sides of trains. Right from the start his strident, comic-book images seemed alienated, more ambitious than the rest. Now fashionable New York artist (he starred in the film Wild Style) he comes to London to show the locals how it's done.

Outside London

Ars Universitatis (John Hansard Gallery, Southampton University until June 8): An extraordinary installation by John Thompson which provides still further proof that the John Hansard Gallery has become one of the most ambitious and intriguing exhibition centres in Britain. The show features a delightful dialogue between the old and the new, between the forgotten Victorian landscapes of Frederick Lee Bridell and Thompson's learned and witty modern commentaries. Difficult to define; impossible to resist.

Waldemar Januszczak

Marine birds of a feather

Nancy Banks-Smith
on the falcon and the
Marines

SERGEANT "Mac" McLean, was addressing 25 would-be recruits to the Royal Marines Mountain and Arctic Warfare Cadre. They were all extremely large young men with, in almost every case, extremely long necks, reaching possibly to freeze behind should the enemy appear unexpectedly.

The sergeant was speaking with the fluency, emphasis and assurance of a man who doesn't get too many back answers. "I gave you," he said reproachfully, "a most, in actual fact a salamander, and it mysteriously disappeared or died."

A wave of giggles blew moustaches about a bit. "That," said the sergeant sadly, "was a noot. Then I gave you a frog, which didn't even have a name. And that died." The moustaches waved in the wind. "Then we had a black beetle, which I do believe someone ate last Saturday. I am determined," he concluded, whipping himself up into a firm froth like the head on a pint of beer, "you shall have a mascot, so what'll it be, at great expense, is it a peregrine falcon? It is a fighting bird. You cannot kill it. It will Not Die!"

And, with a fine sense of the dramatic he produced a peregrine bird in a parrot cage. Contrary to my notions of peregrine falcons,

it had a saucy, worldly-wise eye like a dandy. It put its head on one side and seemed in two minds whether to ask who the sergeant was, or whether to glance at the sergeant, decided against it.

"I've got a training manual 'ere for it," said the sergeant. "I want to see it bring down meat on the hoof in a week." The peregrine fowl gave a wild squawk and swung by its beak from the bars of the cage.

Obviously, said the sergeant, "that's the meaning of the falcon. I need a name for it by 12 o'clock. Squad dismiss."

Behind The Lines (BBC 2) like Fighter Pilot is a documentary series in which recruits are tested to destruction and either come out the other side as Arctic commandos or sink back thankfully into a quiet life of non-existence. Which bit of unpromising permafrost this crack corps hope to seize for the Queen was not spelled out though as Captain Lear zoomed up on his motor bike, giving the cameraman a bad ten seconds, Ian Woodbridge did say rather cheekily, "Since the Russians monitor all these military documentaries they might as well know he commands the training of the Mountain and Arctic Warfare Cadre." I'd be inclined to take the fact that the word Antarctic isn't in their title with a pinch of salt.

Their training began at Land's End with Sgt-Major "Shiner" Wright, jumping, unroped, a 10ft gap over a 270ft drop ("Get your bottle in your hand and take a flying leap..."). So these are the Marines mentioned as training on the rocks where four schoolboys died. It was instantly plain why only a tough young man, described by an officer as "Rather like a badger, almost like an animal," is safe on these rocks and then not alone and then not very.

As they traversed Penny Pool, a crack in the coastline, Corporal Grant's shoulder was torn out of its socket or, as Sgt Wright put it, "He came off and his right arm was left there." Wright got a rope round him, others jumped in, someone turned up the gas under the sea and it boiled up like milk in a saucepan. All of them were torn off the rock and thrown about in the boiling milk.

Grant was hauled up the granite and the others clawed their way out as best and as fast as they could.

The last man out was up that cliff as if his braces had been caught in a tree at the top. The sea came after him: "If that wave had been as massive as the last, his next stop could have been Boston, Mass."

"It's probably quite fortunate," said

Wright who does not go overboard verbally, "that I got the rope round the injured guy and Chris and the other guys jumped in, which tended to jam the zodiac up." (A zodiac, besides being a useful acquisition for scrambling, is a Cornish inlet.) "If just the two of us had been swirling around in there, we might have been swept out. Especially the guy with the injured arm. There was no way he'd have got out."

The choice as mascot of a Bird That Will Not Die seemed altogether appropriate. The peregrine fowl had survived the threat of a premature end. ("He was very noisy at first and not very popular. I think people tried to strangle him and flush him down the loo") and won a precarious popularity ("You'd catch them secretly talking to it and pretending they were men").

The chief threat to its continued existence seemed the tendency of the recruits to eat anything not actually wearing army issue boots. A taster for next week's programme, a survival test in the Hebrides, showed them making an omelette with live worms. The name of the mascot, ordered for 13 o'clock, was never mentioned. I will therefore offer as many worms as you can eat to the reader who comes up with the best name for this unusual and unfortunate fowl.

Wright who does not go overboard verbally, "that I got the rope round the injured guy and Chris and the other guys jumped in, which tended to jam the zodiac up." (A zodiac, besides being a useful acquisition for scrambling, is a Cornish inlet.) "If just the two of us had been swirling around in there, we might have been swept out. Especially the guy with the injured arm. There was no way he'd have got out."

The choice as mascot of a Bird That Will Not Die seemed altogether appropriate. The peregrine fowl had survived the threat of a premature end. ("He was very noisy at first and not very popular. I think people tried to strangle him and flush him down the loo") and won a precarious popularity ("You'd catch them secretly talking to it and pretending they were men").

The chief threat to its continued existence seemed the tendency of the recruits to eat anything not actually wearing army issue boots. A taster for next week's programme, a survival test in the Hebrides, showed them making an omelette with live worms. The name of the mascot, ordered for 13 o'clock, was never mentioned. I will therefore offer as many worms as you can eat to the reader who comes up with the best name for this unusual and unfortunate fowl.

CIVIC THEATRE
DUNELMINGTON
15th to 18th MAY 1985
Box Office (0252) 488555

ARTS CENTRE
UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON
20th to 25th MAY 1985
Box Office (0903) 417417

THEATRE ROYAL
TORRIS
27th MAY to 1st JUNE 1985
Box Office (0904) 23568

THEATRE ROYAL
NEWCASTLE
3rd to 8th JUNE 1985
Box Office (0632) 322051

REPERTORY THEATRE
BIRMINGHAM
17th JUNE to 13th JULY 1985
Box Office (021) 2364455

ARTS THEATRE
CAMBRIDGE
18th to 27th JULY 1985
Box Office (0223) 352000

THE CAMBRIDGE THEATRE COMPANY
in association with
BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE
present

THE VARIETY MUSICAL
LOST EMPIRES
An immensely popular story by
M. J. B. PRIESTLEY
SPECIALIST ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY
W. K. WATKINS & **M. WILKS**
MUSIC BY **W. K. WATKINS**
THE MUSIC COMPOSED AND ARRANGED BY
MR DENIS KING

CAST INCLUDES
Peter Adamson
Leslie Randall
Angela Richards
& Brian Rawlinson

RONNIE SCOTT'S
John Fordham

Loose Tubes

UNRULY youthful energies are at large in Mr R. Scott's establishment throughout this week, not always an observation that can be made on these premises of either the performers or the audience.

Loose Tubes, a 21-piece British big band looking about as comfortable trying to fit on to the club's small stage as if they were trying to play on the side of Mount Blanc, played the opening set of a week-long residency with the go-for-it bravura of a collection of young originators apparently determined not just to prove a point in a night's work but take on most of the sacred cows of the local jazz scene at the same time.

"We want to make this a bit of an event and crack the first new jazz heard in this place in 25 years," said a member of the ensemble who looked as if he'd just come from a photo session for The Face. "You're fired," play-

fully quipped the proprietor later, and with some feeling.

Loose Tubes is the most impressive young orchestra to have emerged in London since Chris McGregor's Brotherhood of Breath, and that wasn't especially young. Most of the members of this outfit look as if they'd be breaking the law by buying a drink.

Performing a largely self-perpetuated repertoire of densely-written jazz orchestral pieces reminiscent at times of Cecil Taylor, George Russell and Gil Evans, Loose Tubes features in short but incisive solo outings the work of some of the country's fastest rising jazz artists.

Part of the band's secret — aside of immensely sophisticated ensemble writing bristling with fresh ideas — is its urge to surprise. It changes time signatures constantly, sets great ragged phalanxes of tramping chord patterns marching in and out of each other, drifts into slow, blue-like passages where the trombones with long, lazy sounds, create a shimmering heat-haze effect, throws in a rough-and-ready cross between gospel and choral singing by all the per-

formers, resolves vigorous pieces in hesitant conclusions and vice versa, sets house infestiously chasing each other.

Tim Whitehead played a relaxed, billowing saxophone solo over a Mike Gibbs-like theme ("we decided to call it Transvestite Stripper" — "sounds really boring," said a wag in the back row) and they wrapped up an immensely varied set with a theme of driving funk in which all the players took to wandering around the club, hooting vigorously.

Winds of change, winds of change. . .

Meirion Bowen
QEH

Lontano

LONTANO's second Pacific Connections recital (most of which can be heard on Radio 3 on Thursday night) contained a discerning choice of music from the West Coast of America. Two of the pieces had extra-musical inspiration. Gallery 33 by William Kraft (formerly timpanist and now composer-in-residence with the Los Angeles Philharmonic) took its style and character from three paintings and colours, Waterloo Bridge, Pollock's Convergence, and the composer's own Kandinsky Variations.


The work was (if he will excuse the pun) well crafted: so much so, in fact, that one was aware more of continuity between the three movements than contrasts. The visual stimulus disappeared and a strong musical idiom took over, assembling its own shapes and colours, deploying them with skill and freedom.

Roger Reynolds's Mistral also left well behind its initial connections with a chill wind experienced in the South of France. Here, a gradually expanding series of violent outbursts assaulted the ear, as pairs of brass and stringed instruments interacted with short segments of musical material, a harp-chord occasionally mediating.

George Newson's O My America (Dramatic, Ferment and Dream) — a BBC commission — offered a European response to America. But too much of its musical content was blurred by the excessive dominance of a speaker (Neil Cunningham) reading extracts from the journey depicted in Nabokov's Lolita, interspersed with some extracts (Neil Jenkins in eloquent form) from Plath, Auden and so on.

ALDERSGATE PRODUCTIONS
PRESENT

MAN OF TWO WORLDS
by Daniel Pearce
World Premiere of a play about St. Paul
with



IAN CULLEN
as Paul of Tarsus

"We laughed, we cried...fantastic!"
Party of Masses

WESTMINSTER THEATRE
Box Office Tel: 01-834 0283/4

HMV MASTER SERIES

KLEMPERER

BARBIROLI · KARAJAN

TUCKWELL · TE KANAWA

GAVRILOV · MENUHIN

RICHTER

GALWAY · MUTI · OISTRAKH

PREVIN · RATTLE · POLLINI

ORMANDY

The Great Names at Mid-price
in the exciting new
HMV MASTER SERIES.

<p>Bartók Violin Concerto No. 2 IZHAK PERLMAN London Symphony Orchestra ANDRE PREVIN © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Bartók Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta The Mendelssohn Mendelssohn Philadelphia Orchestra EUGENE ORMANDY © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3 SVIATOSLAV RICHTER Philadelphia Orchestra RICCARDO MUTI © EC290261 13 EC290264</p> <p>Beethoven Violin Concerto YEHUDY MERRILIN New Philadelphia Orchestra OTTO KLEMPERER © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Brahms Violin Concerto "PETER" Reinhold Gliere HERBERT VON KARAJAN © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 1 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 3 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 4 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 5 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 6 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 7 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 8 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 9 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 10 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 11 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 12 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 13 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 14 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 15 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 16 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 17 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 18 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 19 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 20 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 21 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 22 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 23 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 24 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 25 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 26 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 27 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 28 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 29 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 30 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 31 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 32 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 33 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 34 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 35 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 36 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 37 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 38 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 39 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 40 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 41 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 42 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 43 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 44 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 45 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 46 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 47 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 48 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 49 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 50 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 51 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 52 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 53 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 54 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 55 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 56 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 57 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 58 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 59 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 60 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 61 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 62 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 63 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 64 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 65 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 66 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 67 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 68 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 69 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 70 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 71 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 72 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 73 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 74 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 75 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 76 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 77 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 78 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 79 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 80 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 81 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 82 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 83 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 84 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 85 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 86 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 87 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 88 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 89 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 90 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 91 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 92 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 93 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 94 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 95 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 96 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 97 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 98 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 99 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 100 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 101 RAYMOND LEPPARD © EC290271 13 EC290274</p> <p>Chopin Piano Concerto No. 102 RAYMOND LEPPARD</p>
--

Putting care at the heart of things

When simply everyone says something is true, it's time to start worrying. For Simply Everyone's track record on the hindsight count tends to be a bit rocky. Yesterday, for example, Mr Francis Pym, on behalf of his new thirty club, said again what simply everyone — including Mr Pym in his previous, clubless incarnation — has been saying for months. The Tory Wets, the Labour Party, the Liberal Party, the Social Democrats, the vast swathe of Fleet Street, cross-party groups of economists, the Earl of Stockton and, quite possibly, the Queen Mother: all, with only the odd pocket handkerchief and box of matchsticks between them, agree that the Government needs to tackle unemployment first, modestly to re-inflate the economy, and to restore Britain's crumbling infrastructure. Since that is substantially what The Guardian also believes (and has long argued for) the putting of a counter view doesn't for a second betoken agreement. We sum up what the only people who don't agree with Simply Everyone — the Government and the Government's remaining friends — are saying frankly in private, because it helps tease out the real issue.

Look, a very close friend of Mrs Thatcher might say at a moment like this: look, don't let's be ridiculous. To read the press you'd think the nation was on its economic uppers with Mrs Thatcher only a few feet the great political knacker's yard of a backroom at the Carlton Club. That's the most terrible, rubbish. When the Conservatives are in a jam, their habitual code is to blame the "presentation of policy" whilst protecting undying regard for the policy itself. Usually that's cant — it's the policies themselves that are under attack: and when you hear Sir Edward Du Cann, to name but one, trotting out the old presentational stuff you assume this is crisis as usual. In fact, it's not. Presentation really is the problem.

The Tories may have taken a nasty drubbing in the shires: but letting that result be portrayed by Central Office as an Alliance triumph, or good news for Labour, was sheer crass-management. (Gummer must go). And even if you take the bleakest view of the shires, there is all the difference in the world between mid-term protest and a real vote at the end of the day, with

real disposable income at stake. In 1987 or 1988, Mrs Thatcher will need perhaps 52 per cent of the vote of those in work to get back to Downing Street. And those in work have, by and large, Never Had It So Good. Our national GDP, since 1981, is back to nineteen-sixties levels of growth. Indeed (as The Economist remarked at the weekend) it may hit 4 per cent this year, the best since 1973, but with a tidily lower rate of inflation. This, by current world standards, is booming Britain except in Labour seats; and all the sweeter for the majority because wages, yet again, are happily bounding ahead of inflation. So why the chorus of gloom?

Unemployment, of course. The Number One issue. But not one to get too despondent about too far ahead of a proper election. For a start, our Tory would add there's a chance it may edge back a little by 1988: enough to ease the fear of the disease spreading. But even if it doesn't, there is still the straight appeal at the relevant time to the dominant majority in work and doing very nicely. Meanwhile we should be asking combatively why three (or four) million unemployed hasn't led to anything like the social disorder the pundits prophesied. We should be looking at, and highlighting, those cases, those thousands upon thousands of cases where we believe the State actually pays somebody more not to work than to find a job he's fitted for. We should be banging on endlessly about the uncharted billions in the black economy that everybody knows about in private life but never mentions on a political stage. We shouldn't be unsympathetic or unconcerned about terrible blackspots and terrible problems: but we must stop apologising. There is, for most Tory possibilities, a boom of a length and general beneficence they can't recall. Let's stop the emollient rhetoric and the endless defensiveness. Let's encourage the voters — or at least 52 per cent of them — to count their blessings before they get to the polling booths.

To run through such an argument — attempting to capture its bluff, hard-edged certainties — is to put Mr Francis Pym and Simply Everyone into context. What Mr Pym (and, for that matter, Labour, eyeing its own public opinion polls) is majoring on is really the caring image. The message of MORI and Marplan is that Mrs Thatcher and the Tories are unpopular because they are widely perceived Not to Care. But the message of strategists within Conservative ranks is, however cynically, that care is a mid-term phenomenon which quite enough voters may be tempted to forget when their own wage packets are at stake.

So the problem for the Prime Minister

may, indeed, be presentational. Do you drop your voice in the House and wash in temporary compassion? Or do you say what you may well believe: that hanging on about failures encourages millions of people who should be celebrating (as the next package tour to the sun pulls out of Gatwick) to feel rotten and guilt-ridden and depressed, the worst of both worlds? Currently the Government is self-evidently betwixt and between: making radical noises on the one hand and sticking Band-aid on Scottish ratepayers with the other. But, on their own calculations, they have to start talking about a booming, self-absorbed Britain soon. And that will be the prelude to the final moment of truth, the moment when the millions who say they care today will have to put a private vote, and a private accounting, on the depth of that concern.

The law's torn safety curtain

Gradually, the provisions of the controversial Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 are coming into effect. But some are more gradual than others. For the members of the Police Federation, gathered in conference this week in Blackpool, there is the relatively good news that the new system of police complaints is already in place. The Federation, it is true, fought against the partial reforms in the new Act, arguing that a wholly independent complaints system was now necessary to staunch public dissatisfaction with arrangements which, in the majority of cases, still leave the police as judge and jury over their own cases. Nevertheless, in spite of the increased role of conciliation in minor cases and the enhanced supervisory role of the Police Complaints Authority, the new system provides only marginal improvements for complainants. By contrast, in providing considerable legal safeguards for police officers in serious cases, the new arrangements strengthen the position of Federation members. So the changes in the complaints system are an inadequate balancing factor against abuse of the substantial fresh police powers which Mr Brittan has provided.

Yet such a balance is supposed to be at the heart of the Act. And with the new powers now due to come into force at the start of 1986, this means that the other parts of the legislation which provide protection for suspects assume even greater importance. Here, however, gradualness is in danger of turning into lethargy. Central to any fair treatment of suspects detained under the new police powers is the right,

written into law, of access to legal advice. But it is now clear that the necessary system providing a ready service of solicitors for suspects will not be in force at the start of next year and that major efforts and cash will be needed if any effective provision is to be available within the foreseeable future. On Monday, the Solicitor General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, repeated that the Government remains committed to the introduction of an effective scheme. Yet Sir Patrick's colleagues are not doing enough to translate those words into action and, in the particular case of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, appear to be stifling reform by delay.

It has long been obvious, ever since the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure advocated an effective system of access to legal advice back in 1981, that major reforms in legal services would be needed to provide it. A high proportion of arrests take place at night and at weekends. Most solicitors, however, work a nine to five day. Provision of solicitors for suspects, therefore, requires two things: adequate logistics and funding to enable suspects to see their "own" solicitors and a duty solicitor scheme to provide advice for the remainder. Neither need be easily satisfied within the existing structure of legal services. In rural areas, where distances are great, and in London, where most solicitors live at considerable remove from police stations, lawyers in private practice will only turn out at unsocial hours after delay and providing they are well compensated financially. But the pilot 24-hour duty solicitor schemes which provide the sole safety net in such circumstances have been dogged by delay from the Lord Chancellor. The pilot scheme in London will not even start until September, even though the need in the capital is prodigious, as police powers are greater, accountability less, and one fifth of all arrests occur there. Now even the Law Society is up in arms about the Lord Chancellor's indecision. The net result of Lord Hailsham's dither is that the Police Act will hit the streets without the sugar coating of extra suspects' rights which helped, to sell it to some doubters. And that will ensure exactly the imbalance in the law against which we have consistently warned.

A bloody test for Rajiv

India has suffered a fresh, appalling bout of indiscriminate terror. At least 86 people lie dead as a result of bombs hidden on buses or disguised as transistor radios

and left temptingly in New Delhi parks and gardens. Hundreds have been maimed. The bombing campaign is officially blamed upon Sikh separatists and although nobody has yet claimed responsibility for the outrages there is no reason to doubt the government version of events.

There is a fearful logic about this latest wave of bombing. Quite simply, to create a general demand for an independent Sikh state it is necessary for the extremists first to demonstrate to the millions of Sikhs who live outside their home state that their current position is intolerable. That is not an easy task. Sikhs make up around 2 per cent of the population. They hold down 8 per cent of public service jobs and almost the same percentage of posts in the armed services. They do disproportionately well in trade and commerce. If such a successful minority group is to be persuaded to give it all up and trek back to Khalistan, it will not be for material reasons — nor yet for reasons of religious fervour. Fear of the mob is the most effective partitioner of communities in the sub continent.

To his credit Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi appears to have learned the lesson of those November days after his mother's death when the Delhi mob was left to vent its spleen upon the Sikh minority. This time round the army was on very visible alert and the rioters and the looters failed to materialise. Instead, what started on Monday as a provocative anti-Sikh strike called by Hindu communalists appears to have evolved into a more healthy demonstration by Sikhs and Hindus protesting against extremism and violence. The worst has not happened. The terrorists have not generated a carbon copy of 1947 when Muslims and Hindus died in their millions on the blood soaked trails towards the safety of their kith and kin. Not yet, at any rate.

What the bombers have achieved however is the capture of the main Sikh party, the Akali Dal, by the violent separatist faction led by the father of the "martyr" Sant Bhindranwale. They have also raised the temperature among middle class intellectuals in Delhi who should be the voice of moderation and decency. Instead (as Eric Silver reports) the demand is all for "ruthless crackdowns" and "iron fists." Even the influential Hindustan Times wants an end to Rajiv's "spirit of forgive and forget." So it will be harder now for Mr Gandhi to come to terms as he must, eventually, with legitimate demands for regional autonomy and an end to the central government manipulation which his mother so enjoyed. It will, equally, be hard for moderate Sikh leaders, denied a place in the Akali Dal and in fear of their lives, to settle such concessions rather than separatism. Mr Gandhi is facing the most serious crisis of his short public career and India is entering upon a testing of its will to survive as a multi-communal nation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Assuaging the priests of our shopping cathedrals

Sir, — I read with some amazement your stirring Leader (May 11) quoting Karl Marx in support of liberating the people to do more shopping.

It is absurd to quote Marx in this way. Marxist theory is about understanding social and economic phenomena not as absolutes but according to the society in which they appear.

Life in our society is devoted to the religion of consumption and our modern cathedrals are huge shopping complexes where the good citizen, having spent the week producing, spends the weekend buying the products of monopoly capitalism.

Some — the unemployed — are excommunicated from this sacred ritual, but as our priests and priestesses tell us that is for the sin of greed. "They priced themselves out of a job" so no one will "buy" them and they can buy nothing.

Shopping has become the opium of the masses. It is only "right" that Sunday should be a day of shopping. But don't let us confuse that with freedom. — Yours sincerely,

Frances Campbell, Old School, Stathampton, Oxford.

Sir, — To compare Karl Marx's observations of the Hyde Park demonstrations of June 24 and July 1, 1835, with Mrs Thatcher's intention to abolish the 1850 Shop Act is a poor attempt to equate the sublime with the ridiculous (Leader, May 11).

Such was the condition of the working class in 1835 that there was little option but to shop on Sundays; a 60 to 70-hour six-day week was the norm, not the exception, and wages were not paid out until late on Saturday. This was implicit in the articles written then by Marx for the Neue Oeder Zeitung to which, I presume, you refer.

The pious trappings of the Sunday Trading Bill, and the Beer Bill which preceded it, were poor disguises for the

convivance of the Church with "big capital," which was only too happy to vote away the competition of small shopkeepers through Parliament. Gentle "reforms" could then shop as before, at its leisure, with consciences clear.

That was, however, 180 years ago. Since then the working week has become a day of rest with those who choose to work usually being rewarded with some form of enhanced or premium payment. This is clearly accepted by the Audit Report.

Then there is the insidious threat to abolish wages councils. The Audit Report upholds them as the sole defenders of the shopworker after deregulation. In Mrs Thatcher's mind they are the device by which shopworkers (and others) are pricing themselves out of jobs. Her stated intention is that they, like the Shop Act, should go. She is after all the daughter of a shop owner, not a shopworker.

Perhaps the better comparison for your Leader would have been the way in which the demonstrations of 1835 were treated by the constabulary and today's crowd-control methods: "they began to single out individuals, to arrest and have them arrested on false pretences... When this experiment was repeated more and more often and the pretence no longer stood up, the crowd raised one big cry. "At once the constabulary rushed from ambush, whipped their truncheons out of their pockets, began to beat up people's heads until the blood ran profusely, yanked individuals here and there out of the vast multitude... and dragged them into the lock-ups." Maybe this is what Mrs Thatcher has in mind when she supposedly "agrees" with Marx. — Yours faithfully,

Dave Smith, 8 Southampton Row, London WC1.

Too strong-arm an argument

Sir, — John Mann (Letters, May 11) manages both to make Peter Smith's case and to demolish his own.

The apparent certainty of his assertion that "it is not for any assistant registrar to say how students should or should not spend the growth of fascist organisations" is both chilling and dangerous. What sort of regime is Mr Mann proposing that would deny Mr Smith — or anyone else — the right to say such things?

I too am strongly opposed to fascism and racism — indeed, to extremism of any kind — but believe it to be not only wrong, but counter-productive, to use the

weapons of these causes to oppose them. After all, what are the first actions of any totalitarian regime? To take the media under its control and to lock up — or exterminate — those who oppose it.

I suggest to Mr Mann that, by trying to silence opposition to it, both National Organisation of Labour Students and the National Union of Students are destroying the very cause they set out to defend. Or is it not for me to say that?

Vice-Voltaire! — Yours, etc,

F. J. Brooks, 13 Crescent Road, Wokingham, Berkshire.

When the local safety watchdogs lose their teeth

Sir, — Even before the results of the investigations of the Bradford football tragedy are available, there is a fundamental lesson for Mrs Thatcher, ministers, the Institute of Directors, and all those who have been mindlessly "regulating."

Health, safety, and employment regulations are often tedious and costly — and we should always be prepared to improve and simplify them if possible — but the public interest is not served by putting the alleged needs of "the market" or "the economy" above human health and welfare.

With the Bradford tragedy coming so soon after the Bhopal disaster, it is too much to hope for an end to simplistic and irresponsible free-market ideology. If only on grounds of public health and safety.

Sir Keith Joseph's ill-thought-out reorganisation of the NHS in 1974 killed off medical officers of health and, for trouble-stirring local watchdogs, substituted the peripheral servants of a central and treatment-dominated bureaucracy. That is one

reason why we have heard so little in defence of sensible regulations.

What disasters will the public have to face because of the equally hasty and ill-thought-out proposals to abolish the GLC and the metropolitan authorities? It is one thing for the Lords to amend the abolition Bill. It would be a much better thing to force the Government back to the drawing-board if only to get the many health and safety implications properly dealt with — Yours sincerely,

(Dr) Peter Draper, 86 Ashburnham Grove, London SE21.

Sir, — The fire at Bradford City football ground is not the first to cause tragic loss of life at a public assembly; one is reminded of the Summerland fire in the Isle of Wight and the Woolworth's fire in Manchester.

The lessons of these fires are well-known to professional people in building and are set out in the National Building Regulations. One of the most extensive sections of this code is that devoted to fire protection and means of

escape. This section is normally administered by the chief fire officer as a statutory duty, and the building owner is obliged to comply with the requirements before being granted a certificate of occupancy.

The Bradford authorities seem to imply that football stands lie outside the jurisdiction of the regulations. If so, the fire officer's function can only be advisory, and it falls upon Parliament to remedy this defect without delay, placing all structures used for public assembly under the existing fire regulations.

No one with experience could have been surprised at the speed at which the fire spread through the Bradford football stand; intense heat, speed, and dense smoke are the characteristics of all fires. To see it on Saturday as it did was devastating. An appalling system in the roof would have quelled it sufficiently to allow time for spectators to escape.

No ground should be allowed to open next season before attention has been given to the removal of fire

protection of combustible materials; the provision of fire and smoke-proof escape corridors, and an overhead sprinkler system — Yours faithfully,

D. B. Robinson, 33 Coyle Lane, High Wycombe, Bucks.

Sir, — Comments made after the Bradford City fire may have led many people who are not regular attenders of professional football matches to feel the disaster would not have occurred if the club had been in a higher division and thus subject to the safety of sports grounds legislation.

Unfortunately it has become a habit among many first and second division clubs to ignore sections of the law, and the Government seems unwilling to enforce compliance.

The most flagrant breach of the legislation concerns the locking of gates, clearly a factor in the Bradford fire. At grounds as diverse as Nottingham Forest and Luton Town away supporters are forced to stand in a cage with bars at the front to stop entry to the pitch and

locked doors behind to stop exit into the streets. When challenged, clubs say this is done on police advice: gates are kept locked they say until some 10 minutes after the match is over so that home supporters may disperse before the away fans.

Within 90 minutes of the Bradford disaster Birmingham police ordered the gates to be kept locked for no less than 20 minutes after the end of the game, and still this did not restrict the violence. Indeed it can be argued that it merely inflames passions and transfers violence from the grounds to the streets.

There can be no doubt that if a fire breaks out in a section of a ground where spectators cannot get on to the pitch, the death toll will run into thousands. The Home Secretary really does need to explain why he allows this to continue. Shutting crowds in only tends to exacerbate the situation and make them more likely to riot once let out. — Yours faithfully,

Tony Atwood, Stavely Way, Northampton.

Cold Day

Sir, — The problem with James Burke's programme, *The Day the Universe Changed*, is not so much the way it is presented, but its message. The "rationalism" with which Burke is clearly enamoured and whose exposure Lynne Reid Banks (Letters, May 10) finds so refreshing, comes in for no critical treatment whatever.

Burke shows us that science, the practical face of rationalism, has many wonderful achievements under its belt: bridges, medical equipment, warm houses, etc. It also played a large part in creating engines of destruction.

Rationalism's conversations are littered with words like "analysis," "definition," and "manipulation." Little wonder that its dialogue with nature, the seat of synthesis and harmony — is sometimes characterised by myopic misunderstanding.

Rationalism is simply one way of looking at the world among many others, some of which are less aggressive and more caring. Western intellectual tradition has not yet got around to asking questions of its own methodology, and it is a matter of some urgency that it does so. Sincerely,

Andrew Dobson, Oxford.

The Falklands Ozimandias

Sir, — The Falkland Islands airstrip has been formally opened at a basic cost of £400 million and Mrs Thatcher has described it as a triumph. Would it not be a nice gesture to commemorate this and her other triumphs by erecting a statue of her,

Examiners' failures

Sir, — The truth about A-levels is both better and worse than Charles Smith suspects (Letters, May 11).

The good news is that there is no conspiracy by the examination boards to depress candidates' grades by about 3 per cent each year, or any other percentage. If Charles Smith had consulted the boards' annual statistics from, say, 1979 he would have seen that pass rates and the percentages of candidates awarded each grade have remained more or less constant, heard by board and subject by subject, over the past 15 years.

The bad news is that pass rates and grade percentages can vary widely among the nine GCE boards. For example, in the English literature A-level examinations held by the three largest boards — summer 1983 the percentages of school candidates passing were: London 68.8, JMB 73.8, AEB 84.8, and AEB Alternative syllabus 90.2.

Such differences cannot be due solely to different qualities of candidature. Comparing just two boards, we find that London regularly passes more A-level candidates than JMB in geography, German, history, maths and physics, but that JMB passes more candidates than London in biology, economics and English.

Moreover, in almost every major subject JMB awards more grade A's than London — and most other boards — nearly twice as many in some subjects. In some years, this information could be vital to young people who need A grades, for example to read medicine or to enter Oxbridge.

Surprisingly there is as yet no mechanism for comparing the standards of the nine Examination Councils (formerly the Schools Council) scrutinises the individual boards' examination, from time to time, but does not compare them with those of themselves conduct comparability studies, but these are occasional, voluntary, and almost never involve all nine boards.

Injustice to candidates does not arise then from conspiracy but from complacency. With the A-level examinations three weeks away, parents will not be pleased to learn that their children's future is partly at the mercy of the boards' jealousy and independence. — Yours sincerely,

L. C. Smith, Kingston upon Thames.

overlooking the airstrip:

The inscription, I suggest, might well be taken from Shelley's *Ozymandias* of Egypt. "Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!" — Yours faithfully, (Mrs) Ann Broadhouse, Wareham, Dorset.



"sus" laws have provided another glaring example. The vigilance of pressure groups, politicians more responsive to constituencies than whips, and even "ambulance-chasing" lawyers across the Atlantic may seem chaotic, but they reflect a many-layered culture which contrasts with Britain's stifling orderliness. It would be wrong, however, to focus too closely on the legal side. Mr Jackson makes too much of the Bill of Rights; how could it be "without full and widely accepted documentary constitution."

A COUNTRY DIARY

OXFORDSHIRE: Bargeman's cabbage, being an extreme example — an excursion along the banks of the Evesham to gather this palatable "food for free" has a secondary purpose: one of the best sites is also annually favoured by the presence of tree piths, now far from common locally. On a recent visit the pith was performing its shuttlecock song-flight descent to the crown of a hawthorn and, in an ox-bow loop of the brook, I found a good supply of the succulent young shoots of the greens. But the pleasure of achieving both aims of the trip was marred when I noticed the drooping vegetation all along the river bank of the opposite meadow. The grass had been sprayed with a selective herbicide, but the operation had included the

steep bank right down to water-level, for willow herb, meadowswort, loosestrife, teasels, nettles, hedge garlic, and the bargeman's cabbage all hung limp down the bank. What is so alarming about this incident is that all along the margin of the field some of the chemical herbicide must have fallen into the brook. W. D. CAMPBELL

How can private homes for elderly people be kept up to standard? In the second of his series, David Hencke examines the 'Norfolk method' — and the research that shows there is still some way to go

In search of a place like home

HOMING INSTINCTS

FOR every 10 people applying to open a private old people's home in Norfolk, nine give up after going through the rigorous procedures employed by the county's social services department.

Yet such is the interest and demand for new private facilities that there is still one new home opening every fortnight in this mainly rural county. Last year, Norfolk dealt with 280 inquiries from potential proprietors and saw just over 20 new homes opening during the same period.

Since 1981 the county has been experiencing a boom in home development in line with national figures. In 1975 in Britain there was only one private residential bed for every public sector bed — a total of 18,759 compared with 95,000. By 1982 the proportion had changed to one in three — some 33,839 compared with 103,500. The latest estimates — there are no official figures — suggest there are now about 48,000 private beds — almost one in two.

Norfolk has been regarded as one of the front runners in seeking to regulate and control the development of private homes. Long before the new Registered Homes Act came into force in January, with powers to register, deregister, inspect and lay down minimum standards, the county had its own guidelines.

Mr Bryan Rowe, the senior homes registration officer for the county, played a major role in drawing up the national code of practice which came into force following the Act. Indeed the county's way of handling and controlling the boom has been called "the Norfolk method".

Mr Rowe says that one of the essential ingredients in the process is known as the "Bilby" (Bilby routine in reverse). Instead of encouraging the potential and already enthusiastic private home owner to proceed, the county went out

of its way to preach the pitfalls of going into such a business.

At one stage potential home owners were encouraged to meet at a residential home and discuss their project with the county's most ageing and most vulnerable residents. Many shocked proprietors who expected to meet kindly, sweet people gave up on the spot.

Now Norfolk has given up this practice — mainly to respect the privacy of the elderly people who should not be gawped at — and replaced the visit with a video that shows some of more difficult aspects of looking after them.

But the process continues with a seminar which every potential proprietor must attend, at a cost of £20. Here the cost of such an investment is spelled out: Norfolk estimates that people need about £120,000 to £150,000 working capital to set up a home. Potential proprietors are warned against buying isolated country rectories, which pose problems because they are often miles from any public transport, difficult to reach for both residents and residential staff, and sometimes too distant from the local GP in emergencies.

Proprietors who are still determined to go ahead must provide four references, covering both their financial position and their character.

The county would like access to police files to make sure that any potential villain can be weeded out at this stage. It has so far failed to persuade the Government on this point, although the Association of County Councils is campaigning on the issue.

Once the proprietor is approved, considerable effort is made to ensure that the property is viable. Each potential home is scrutinised at a site visit by the environmental health officer, and planners and fire officers meet with the social services department.

Norfolk insists that every single room must be at least 10 square metres and every double room 15 square metres. Every home must have two communal rooms; there must be a ratio of one toilet to every four residents and a bath for

every eight. A guest room must be provided and the central heating has to be adequate. Recent rulings by Norfolk also mean that two storey buildings are frowned upon. The owner then has to prepare the building and be ready for a meeting with the registration panel.

Further scrutiny is made to ensure that adequate staff cover is available — every home in Norfolk must have night cover — and the home is finally inspected before its registration is approved.

Only then can the home open and even after this the proprietors are encouraged to attend conferences and further training courses. There is regular liaison between the Department of Health and Social Security, the county council and the private home owner.

Mr Rowe admits that even with these controls the system is not foolproof. But there is evidence, he says, that by making careful scrutiny of potential applicants a lot of problems can be avoided. Such an approach is also useful where resources are scarce. By emphasising prevention, Norfolk can avoid employing too many people to chase up poor owners.

Mr Edward Hackford, a deputy director of social services responsible for the area, says he preferred to work with the private home owners in raising standards, putting them out of business. "We have not deregistered anybody for years — but that does not mean that we have not been able to raise standards."

He points out that deregistration could be interpreted as a last resort or even an admission of failure, particularly when the authorities had gone to enormous lengths to ensure that the right people were encouraged to set up homes in the first place. This, he says, will be effective as long as the screening work is done. If it is not done so thoroughly by other authorities who then have few resources to monitor the developments, the result would not be the same. So far, since the new Act came into force there has only been one application to deregister a home in Britain.



HELPING HAND: picture in a Norfolk home by E. Hamilton West

One in five had been admitted by someone who thought it 'best for them'

BRITAIN'S private home owners are not a group of greedy, small businessmen exploiting vulnerable unsuspecting, elderly people. But neither does the private sector produce a "Bilby" routine in reverse. Instead of encouraging the potential and already enthusiastic private home owner to proceed, the county went out

Their survey involved questionnaires to 100 homes and detailed visits and stays at 10 homes — all in Norfolk and just when the county was launching its own system of monitoring and regulating the private sector.

Their findings suggest that while Norfolk's new system certainly prevented the worst abuses of private care, it did not necessarily provide ideal circumstances for many of the elderly people or staff.

The study looked in detail at 178 residents — two thirds paying for their care and one third relying on some form of public assistance. The major-

ity (84 per cent) were women but they were fit in comparison with people living in old people's homes in the state sector.

Half the people were admitted to private homes because of failing health, but only 38 per cent had been referred by a doctor. The rest had been admitted by family or friends, or by a social worker, a member of a family or a GP who thought "it best for them".

Staff in the homes were

mainly low paid women, ranging in age from 16 to 83. Few had received any formal training, although Norfolk was trying to rectify this. (About 61 per cent of staff had received training qualifications, while 20 per cent had neither qualifications nor previous experience.)

Deployment of staff is described by the researchers, Diane Wilcock, Tim Weaver and Leonie Kelleher, as varying between casual and militaristic. Formal arrangements were often neglected or replaced with numerous ad-hoc arrangements, with some staff agreeing to be "on call" at night. Four out of the 10 homes

lacked proper night cover in spite of a county ruling that all homes should have cover.

Wages varied between £1.20 and £1.50 an hour, with one worker being paid in cash of food for one shift. Staff satisfaction was high despite low material rewards.

Physical conditions in the 10 homes showed that many did not come up to standards now imposed by Norfolk. They found inadequate dining rooms, where residents could not all eat together, corridors without proper rails, and homes with inadequate lifts or no lifts at all.

The researchers also found that if proprietors wanted to

increase their profit, the only viable way was to extend their home by providing more bedrooms. They point out that as a long-term strategy proprietors must be prepared to extend beyond a financially debilitating occupancy level close to the threshold of viability in order to create profit and reinvest in care.

Where proprietors came dangerously near to the brink there was growing evidence of "burn out" caused by overcommitment of personal energies and resources. One in five homes changed hands during the one year research project. The most vulnerable homes were the smaller ones which

suggest that "cottage caring" may soon be on the way out.

Nevertheless, the researchers believe that the Norfolk model of regulation does work and can provide reciprocal benefits. They say it can both raise standards and create a context in which private homes can survive and make a profit.

"In this way, it becomes possible for that group of elderly people who can turn to the private sector to obtain the quality of care that they merit."

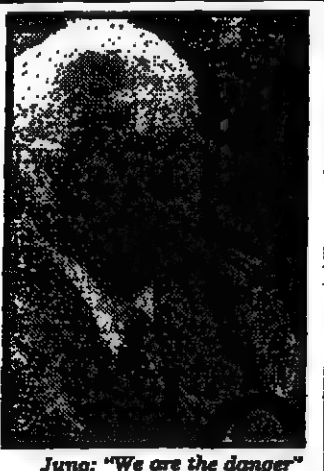
Next week: A local authority alternative for community care.

BIOGRAPHERS, said C. G. Jung, should show people in their undergarments. Now, and nearly a quarter of a century after his death, he has been taken at something like his word. Matter of Heart is a film evocation of the man and his thought which is going to remain unique, not just a rare chance to see him speaking, but an unrepeatable gathering together of interviews with the now old men and women who knew him well.

Especially those formidable women. There was, as someone here says, a little too much transference about some times in those early Zurich days. The women were there from the start: he is in the clips from those old and wobbly home movies, still surrounded by them. And such cultism, recalls one woman, that Jung just puffed out his chest and said: "I am a bit different — hopeless father figure, after all, far too changing and irrational."

To men and women both, though, he could be far too easy. What a charlatan he could seem at first acquaintance, how vain, how critical, how insistent that he was the best when he did it. But how lovingly they remember him too, irresistible he must have been. So warm, they say, "so transparent for people, so full of energy and humour in his puncturing of pomposities. And so finally simple, too. In the film of him guggling about, childlike, in the water at the side of the lake. Passing locals who had heard that he was the greatest depth psychologist alive would wonder whether he was just a bit different, or if people should come to him from all over the world.

But it isn't just as therapist that the C. G. Jung Institute of Los Angeles, which put the film together, wants him known to a wider audience. Nor is the concern just to present a more complete and accurate biographical sketch than we've yet had. (The lengthy discussion of the precise nature of his long relationship with Toni Wolff and his huge importance to work, however, and of how she



Jung: "We are the danger"

Me and my shadow

There's a message for each one of us in the new film biography of C. G. Jung. Ann Shearer reports

and Emma Jung worked out a way of both loving the man, goes a lot further than any yet revealed on this touchy topic: to judge by the snappy comment of one grandson — "two wives and one man — just an excuse — should have been stopped" — the skeleton rattles in the family closet yet.)

But in the end, it is the essentially political nature of the man's message that matters here most — and most timely it comes to our troubled world. For Jung, the personal was the political; analytical psychology, he says here, is not just to do with therapy, with the treatment of individual neurosis: it is also a pedagogy,

something like antique philosophy — a challenge to the role of humankind.

The great events of world history are at bottom profoundly unimportant. The essential thing is the life of the individual, which alone makes history. "What our world lacks is the psychic connection, and consequently, a political party and no State will ever be able to replace this."

It was the forging of that connection that he saw as central, in his insistence on the task of becoming aware of the uncomfortable fact that the unconscious is as much a reality as the conscious, and on the taking of individual responsibility for that dark shadow rather than letting it do one's bidding in the convenient personal, political or national enemy.

It was psychic reality he was after, and not the illusion of light: wholeness and not perfection: in his study of alchemy he offered a mythical container to link our past and our present which is more complete than the Christian myth, with its one-sided emphasis on the good and light and its rejection of the dark. This insistence was on living religiously, not on observing a religion.

And if not "We are the great danger," he says here, "the psyche is the great danger." Just before he died, he had a vision of the final catastrophe, of the last 50 years of humankind. The last time Marie-Louise von Franz, one of his closest collaborators, saw him, he was speaking of enormous areas of devastation.

And now? She is not too optimistic as she sees the splits in the world, continuing projection of that shadow within onto the enemy outside. But here too is the hope: it is the withdrawal of that projected shadow which is the individual at work for peace that becomes the collective one. If we are honest, she says, we can find these things. If we are honest.

Matter of Heart opens tomorrow in London at the Gaiety Cinema, Bloomsbury.

Family courts were mooted 11 years ago. So what's kept them? Malcolm Dean explains

Domestic help wanted, urgently

THE first conference of all the professional people involved in a family court — social workers, lawyers, judges — meets today at the Law Society's headquarters in London. 11 years before the Finer Committee first proposed the idea.

Ten years ago when pressed in the House of Commons to say whether the Labour government would introduce family courts, Mr. Sam Silkin, the Labour Attorney General, replied: "Of course, it is the government's policy. The question is whether it be this year, next year, or..."

The Conservative party was equally unequivocal in its support for family courts. This was reinforced by a special report from the Society of Conservative Lawyers.

The House of Commons select committee on social services in a report last year showed the proposal still had all-party support but the committee added: "The record of successive governments does not suggest that family courts are likely to be established unless there is a sustained political demand for them."

There have been well over five million domestic cases since Finer reported in 1974. The biggest single group is the separated and divorced. Over three million people have been divorced in the last decade. There have been about two million applications for maintenance, access or attachment of earnings orders in the magistrates' courts alone. The county courts have dealt with another two million domestic proceedings including the majority of divorces.

But domestic proceedings are not just about separation and divorce. They deal with adoption, guardianship, child neglect and battered wives as well.

The British Association of Social Workers.

The first — and the worst — is the two-tier system of justice. Finer's aim was to bring together the three separate systems — family and domestic law, magistrates, county courts and the High Court — to create a single unified system. This would end the present system under which the poor turn to the Labour Court, the middle class to the second class substitute for matrimonial relief, the magistrates, and the better off to the county courts or High Court. Under a unified family court, the level at which a case would be heard would depend not on the wealth of the parties but on the complexity of the issues.

A second defect is that different issues in the same case (financial support, occupation of the family home, ownership of family assets, access and custody) are heard by different courts. The same case can shuttle back and forth between the county and High Court. Even on the same issue some cases shuttle back and forth. One recent case involving the custody of a child had six hearings at three different levels in three months at a cost of at least £20,000 to the legal aid fund.

Other defects include inconsistent judgments between the separate levels, no training (although it was announced last week that this would start next year) and an inappropriate procedure. Solicitors and social workers would like to see the courts switch from the adversarial to an inquisitorial approach.

Why, then, when there has been so much support, both political and professional — for the proposal has there been so little progress?

On October 20, 1975, Mrs. Barbara Castle, who as Secretary of State for Social Services was responsible for answering questions on Finer, told the Commons: "There is nothing that we should like more than

to be able to provide separate accommodation for all forms of domestic business. But here we come up against the grim realities of public expenditure."

We now know, however, that that was not the complete story. The Castle Diaries for 1974-76 published five years later show that Mrs. Castle had gone to see Elwyn Jones, the Labour Lord Chancellor, four days before the 1975 debate. The Diaries state: "Hurried over to see Elwyn about family courts. I am really trying to get to the bottom of what we are doing on Finer... Elwyn was as charming as usual and convinced me that the elaborate new machinery Finer proposes just is not on..."

So who nobbled Elwyn? Three groups are said to have been opposed — some judges and most barristers, both of whom have direct lines into the Lord Chancellor's Department, plus the civil servants who deal with them. Some people within the Department of Health and Social Security wanted to pursue the idea, but the reform of the courts is strictly under the control of Lord Chancellor. Even if she had wanted to pursue the reform, Barbara Castle would have found it impossible.

Unlike his immediate predecessors — Lords Gardiner and Hailsham — Lord Elwyn Jones was not a reformer. He wanted a quiet life in the post, and he had one. It would not have been difficult for his advisers to persuade him that the proposals were too expensive.

In three separate reports since Finer was postmorted by the government for financial reasons the Law Society has argued that a family court would reduce expenditure. Neither side has produced figures but the Law Society suggests the proposals would mean not more work but the redistribution of existing work. It believes there would

be savings because more cases could be settled at one hearing rather than shuttled from one level to the other and the informality of family courts would mean they could use office accommodation rather than the more expensive formal courtrooms.

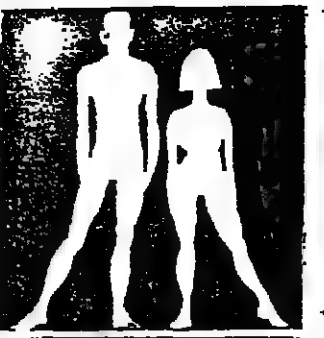
Neither the judges nor the barristers who are opposed have publicly set out their reasons. But the barristers are worried that family courts would allow solicitors a wider right of audience before the courts and the judges who are opposed are either against change anyway or dislike some part of the package.

Although the Magistrates' Association has not yet taken a stand it is in favour of removing the adversarial procedure from domestic proceedings and supports the idea of disputes over access and custody going to conciliation before reaching the courts.

The justices' clerks have been suspicious because they believe the finer reforms would need fewer administrators and have produced their own model, which uses the existing magistrates' courts as a base for a family court.

One purpose of today's conference is to examine the various models to see whether a consensus can be achieved on the best structure. A government working party is due to report later this year on the resource implications of Finer's scheme.

The conference has caused some concern within the Lord Chancellor's Department which expects its client groups to use Whitehall's inside track rather than the outside track of a public conference. The Law Society, however, has been using the inside track for 10 years and still got nowhere. The Select Committee's message that only a sustained political campaign will succeed appears to have struck home.



BODY AND SOUL

Killjoy was here

WHATEVER craze may sweep the beaches this summer you can be sure a certain type of doctor will be on hand, eyes bright and pen primed, eager to publish the first condemnatory account of it. Medical censorship is an ancient tradition — some doctors are still uncertain whether they approve of sex — but in the 1950s it resurged powerfully with the coming of the hula hoop.

Doctors discovered that if they issued gloomy warnings about what hooping could do to the spine, not only did they get their letters in their professional journals but their names in the sort of newspapers read by their patients.

They needed little further encouragement and recently, for instance, we've had grave pronouncements about Jagger's Nipple, Break-dancing Neck, Crab-eater's Lung, Swim-goggle Headache, and Amusement Slide Anaphylaxis.

And, in the index of the new England Journal of Medicine, which specialises in this sort of thing, you can find Cycist's Pudendum, Dog Walker's Elbow, Space Cadet's Vertigo, Unicyclist's Sciatica, Jeans Folliculitis, Jogger's Kidney, Flautist's Neuropathy, and Urban Cowboy's Rhabdomyolysis — a painful nastiness in the muscles caused by riding mechanical bucking broncos in amusement arcades.

Censorious doctors seem particularly to enjoy knocking activities promoted by their heartier colleagues. There's an eagerness, for instance, in the way they record the afflictions of joggers, bombarding medical journals with reports of muscle and joint injuries, heart attacks, asthma, and amenorrhoea. Recently three punctilious Swiss physicians reported yet another jogging hazard: bird attacks by the European Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*).

With doctors revelling so busily in the role of gloomy killjoy, it is not surprising that patients are flocking to fringe medicine and beyond in search of the homely optimism that once radiated from Tannochbrae.

In the land of the cliché, prevention may be better than cure but, back in the real world, the punters warm more readily to dear old Dr Cameron than to finger-wagging Dr Spock. Medicine has always been a mixture of the wisdom of great men like Mr. Robert Robinson, who have said that they hope their doctors will keep any bad news to themselves. Optimism has always been a virtue, and I have often seen optimistic doctors help patients fight off — even overcome the effects of incurable disease.

Optimism also enhances a doctor's reputation. Patients die, friends and relatives will say: "The doctor was marvellous. He did all that was humanly possible but nature beat him in the end." His reputation always outshines that of the medical pessimist whose patients never die "in spite of his efforts." Even worse, they occasionally survive in spite of his efforts.

The world is full of gleeful old fogies eager to describe how they cheated their pessimistic doctors. They wave their walking sticks and tell us proudly how, maybe 40 years before, some gloomy killjoy gave them only six months to live.

Optimism, I am convinced, is an essential component of ephemeral quality possessions by doctors whom patients feel better for seeing, no matter what treatment is prescribed. The doctors are often assumed to be endowed with gifts denied to their colder hearted colleagues, but thirty years of casual doctor-watching have persuaded me that the "gift" is largely a technique. Given the right technique, today's gloomy denouncer of cream cakes, coffee, and BMX bicycles could transmute overnight into dear old Dr Cameron.

The best techniques are rarely written down but are passed by word of mouth within the brotherhood or handed down as hereditary from doctor fathers to their doctor sons. The most valuable one I know was passed to me by the grandson of a distinguished Dublin physician, Richard Leeper.

Leeper's gift to his grandson went something like this: "Never give medicine to a dying man. Always give him brandy. Everyone knows that brandy never harmed anyone but give the patient medicine and someone will say: 'God forgive me if I wrong him, but the doctor's draught was the last thing the poor man took.'"

Grandfather Leeper must have received that advice around about 1880 and no one knows how many generations it had passed through before it reached him. It could well have started with Hippocrates, for that quality of learning has an imperishable validity.

Michael O'Donnell

NEWHAM HOUSING SERVICES

Fieldwork Services Officer

SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

GRADE PO (3-6). SALARY: £11,918 to £12,900 p.a. (incl.)

We are looking for a manager, preferably with a background in housing, to take charge of fieldwork activities in the north of the district and to be responsible to the District Manager.

South East District covers East Ham and part of Custom House, together with Becontree, South Docklands and four estates located outside the Borough. This Officer is responsible for the whole area excluding the North Woolwich Neighbourhood Office — some 6,400 properties, 5,000 of which are in-Borough. The District Office is located in East Ham.

The post will be responsible for Fieldwork Teams, responsible for estate management, technical and caretaking functions and will play a leading role in servicing the Tenants' Liaison Committee and in encouraging Tenants' Associations to participate in the management of their estates.

There is a large rehabilitation programme in the District and, as well as overseeing the management of schemes on site — with particular emphasis on tenant consultation and welfare — the successful candidate will be able to contribute to reviewing the District's Capital Programme.

The responsibilities of this post are liable to change on decentralisation and further information can be provided on request. Newham is a Borough with a multi-racial population and the Council is conscious that its policies and delivery of service should reflect the needs of local communities and applicants should preferably have experience in working in a similar background. However, more important is a commitment to making sure there is equality of opportunity in providing the service and in eliminating racial harassment on estates.

This is a re-advertisement, previous applicants need not re-apply and will automatically be considered.

An application form and further details are available by writing to the Chief Executive, Newham Housing Services Division, Town Hall, East Ham, E6 3RP, or by telephoning 01-471 0519 (24-hour answering service).

Please quote reference ASC225.

Closing date: 31st May, 1985.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM

PROJECT FULLEMPLOY

Project Fullemploy is a training organisation providing intensive courses for young people, mainly from minority ethnic groups, who for whatever reason are at a disadvantage in the job market.

We have the following vacancies — all to be based at our Central Office which will shortly relocate to Park Village East, London NW1.

1. COMPANY RELATIONS OFFICER, £9,489 pa

To liaise with our supporting companies and seconded staff; to administer fund raising events; to co-ordinate the work of our employment officers and to generally assist the Company Relations Manager. Although much of the work is administrative, proven ability to take responsibility for specific areas of work is sought.

2. SELF EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT WORKER, £9,489 pa

To set up and co-ordinate five Resource Centres for those in, or considering, self employment. Continuing liaison with the Manpower Services Commission, local businesses and communities, potential users and Fullemploy training centres is required. Will involve regular travel to Birmingham, Manchester, Bradford and Liverpool. One year contract under MBC's VPP scheme.

3. TRAINING DEVELOPMENT WORKER, £9,489 pa

To evaluate and develop Fullemploy's training activities; to market training and awareness packages to new customers, eg employers and Community Programme sponsors, and on occasions to conduct training. Experience in training or vocational education in a community or commercial setting is essential.

4. RESOURCE UNIT ASSISTANT, £6,876 pa

To input data to an IBM PC on trainees, sponsoring companies, staff etc, and to produce printouts to standard formats and in response to ad hoc enquiries. Also to provide secretarial support to the Resource Unit staff. Previous experience of working with computers is essential.

For more details and an application form, please contact Liz Audus on 01-262 2405, Project Fullemploy, 48 Bryanston Square, London W1H 7LN, specifying the job(s) in which you are interested. Formal qualifications are not required for any of the posts.

Project Fullemploy is an equal opportunities employer.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Senior Social Worker (Senior Practitioner)

£11,355-£11,984 p.a. incl.

We are a developing neighbourhood office seeking a generic Senior Social Worker with a minimum 2 years post-qualification experience to join our patch at Sands End, Fulham.

Our group has both generic and specialist workers and is committed to developing community social work whilst maintaining high standards of work with children in care or at risk. This post offers ample opportunity for an innovative person with initiative and enthusiasm. We are a friendly, cohesive group and would welcome your contribution of knowledge and expertise to the development of high standards within the team. (Ref. SCAT 4/8).

For informal discussion, please phone Rita O'Rourke, Assistant Area Officer, 01-736 0971.

Finding Jobs for people with a mental handicap

Blakes Wharf Employment Services, Fulham SW6 We are looking for a Centre Worker to contribute through a new approach to finding paid employment for people with a mental handicap.

Your work will involve you in contracting employers, providing work skills, training, and giving advice on job opportunities. You will need to be flexible and determined, possess the enthusiasm and commitment to achieve the aims of our service. Ideally, you should have business related experience with an interest in Social Services. (Ref. SDA/BW7).

Salary: £7,017 to £8,984 per annum (qualification bar at £9,313).

For an informal discussion, contact Jane Middleton on 01-385 9471.

Application form and information pack available from Staff Section on 01-748 7620 (24 hour answering service) quoting appropriate reference.

Closing date: 23 May, 1985.

Development Planning

Planning Administrator

Sc.4, £7,803 to £9,577 inclusive

To work closely with professional officers on local economic projects, ethnic minority business support initiatives, environmental improvement projects and to provide wide ranging support to the planning and economic development division. This will include the preparation of Committee reports and production of publicity and participation material.

A degree or appropriate qualification is required and relevant experience will be an advantage. This post may be available on a job sharing basis.

Informal enquiries to Janice Collins 01-748 3020, ext. 426.

Application forms from London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (Personnel), Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith W8 8JU, telephone 01-741 0904 (24 hour answering service) quote ref: DCAPI.3.

Closing date: 22nd May, 1985.

Hammersmith & Fulham An Equal Opportunity Employer

Breaking the Mould of Unemployment

PROJECT DIRECTOR

(Re-advertisement — previous applicants need not re-apply)

A recently formed Project in the industrial north for unemployed men and women on the dole who give their time and abilities without payment.

its working hypothesis is:

If people who can find no one to employ them are appropriately supported in the Project, they can develop skills and capabilities which contribute to their own growth as they work in their local community setting, and they begin to demonstrate that paid employment is not central to a life of well-being.

The Project Centre is a large building with restaurant and theatre and lets start-up units to entrepreneurs. It is sponsored by Christian interests. Initial funding is from voluntary sources.

The successful candidate will see the Project in terms of Christian mission; identify with the situation of unemployed people; be available to others so they can decide what to do and how to use their resources, will be sensitive to unjust situations and ready to challenge social and political assumptions.

Holistic will have sound management experience, will have worked in human service agencies, have training skills and a background in handling business affairs successfully. Holistic will be accountable to the Board and lead other paid staff as a team. Salary in line with the level of responsibilities and experience (£16-18,000).

Further details including application form (to be returned by 29 May 1985): Catherine Lynch, The Grubb Institute, Cloudeley Street, London N1 0HU. Tel. 01-276 9061.

SOUTHWARK CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Southwark CDA works to promote worker co-operatives in the London Borough of Southwark.

We are looking for a woman to join the present team of three workers, who are both skilled in training and/or admin, and also have experience of working with ethnic minority and/or women's groups.

Details, the successful applicant will also have experience of working in or with co-operatives.

Details and application form from: Southwark CDA, 135 Rye Lane, London SE15 4ST.

Contact Pat on 01-335 0134.

The post is for 3½ days per week (25 hours).

Salary: £9,477 + London Weighting (two rates).

Southwark CDA is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

Section 6 (3) (b) of The Equal Opportunities Act applies.

Closing date: May 30, 1985.

HACKNEY CITY FARM

requires a person to complete a team of 4.

HORTICULTURALIST

The Farm is located in the Haggston Park Extension and is in the initial stages of development.

The Farm Project is looking for a person with sound horticultural knowledge and experience, practical knowledge of farm animals would be an advantage.

The Farm is an equal opportunity employer and will consider job sharing. Closing date 31st June 1985.

Salary Scale Local Government Scale 5.

These posts are Partnership Urban Programme Funded by the GLC. For further information please send a SAE (A4) to:

The Secretary, Hackney City Farm, St. Charles Village, Dulston Street, London E2.

Telephone for informal enquiries 01-729 4654/6361 (Tuesday to Saturday 2 to 4 pm only).

RACE RELATIONS ADVISER

(Social Services)
Eros House, SE6.

£13,344-£14,427 inc.

Applications invited for the post of Race Relations Adviser in the Social Services Department. The post is developing a race equality programme by establishing anti-racist policies and strategies.

Duties will include advising the department on achieving race equality across the full range of its services, the development of departmental anti-racist strategies, assistance with the implementation of a training strategy and to extend consultative links with the Black community and the department's Black employees.

The postholder will report to the Director of Social Services and have direct access to the Social Services Committee. In addition, he/she will have a direct organisational link with the Council's Race Equality Unit to assist a corporate and collective approach to Lewisham's race equality strategy.

Whilst no formal qualifications for the post are necessary, experience and awareness of the Black dimension to racism and gender and the ability to translate this into effective action at Local Government level is essential. We are seeking therefore someone with an awareness both of the issues surrounding racism and Social Services provision. Experience of working for change within the area of race equality, either the statutory or non-statutory sector is essential; and the ability to work under institutional pressure and to meet deadlines. The postholder will be expected to appreciate the potential of the anti-discriminatory acts and to advise accordingly. Applications from job sharers welcome. A leaflet explaining job sharing will be sent with application form. For further information contact: Director of Social Services, 01-698 8121, Ext. 38, or Neville Adams, Principal Race Equality Adviser — 01-698 6121 — Rushey Green Lane 4.

Application form, returnable by 31.5.85, and detailed job description, from Chief Personnel Officer, Riverside Offices, 68 Molewsworth Street, London SE13 7EU, or telephone 01-318 8297 (24-hour answering service), quoting reference SS 231(1) and the job title.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

Our jobs are open equally to all races and both sexes.

LONDON BOROUGH OF EALING CAREERS IN PUBLIC FINANCE

£6,578 - £9,771

We are looking for graduates with good honours degrees in Economics, Accountancy or related subjects who wish to undertake professional training in accountancy leading to membership of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

The successful applicants will be provided with a mixture of practical training and external courses. The Council will meet the cost of all necessary training expenses and fees.

Starting salary is likely to be at the bottom of the range quoted. Progress within the salary scale will reflect job performance and examination success.

Detailed C.V.s should reach the Borough Personnel Officer, Room A284, Town Hall Annex, New Broadway, Ealing, London W5 2BT, by 31st May, 1985.

Please quote Reference 300P.

TECHNICAL SERVICES GROUP

Architectural Division

BUILDING SERVICES

ENGINEERING ASSISTANT

(Mechanical)

£6,579 - £9,771 p.a.

(starting salary depends upon qualifications and experience)

Are you expecting to graduate this summer and looking to a career in Mechanical Engineering? Interested? Then read on:

A vacancy has arisen for science graduates or junior mechanical engineers to develop their career by joining the Building Services Section of the Borough Architectural Department. You will be engaged in the design, specification and contract management of mechanical and allied services within a variety of Council buildings projects.

Please quote Reference 728AR.

Closing date: 31st May, 1985.

TOWN PLANNING DIVISION

TEMPORARY TOWN PLANNING ASSISTANT

£6,579 - £9,771 p.a.

(Starting salary according to qualifications and experience)

A Planning Assistant is required in the Implementation Branch, to cover for maternity leave.

Duties will include a wide range of development control, environmental improvement and related tasks, for which experience of work in a planning department is desirable.

The successful candidate should hold or be studying for an appropriate qualification in Town Planning.

Please quote Reference 730TP.

Closing date: 31st May, 1985.

Application forms obtainable from the Personnel Office, Room A284, Town Hall Annex, New Broadway, Ealing, London W5 2BT. Telephone: (01) 948 1085 (24-hour service).

GLC

Working for London

Publicity & Information

Team Leader

Welfare Benefits Project

Heading a team of 6, this post is responsible for managing and co-ordinating all publicity and information for this major public awareness project, including liaison with advertising agencies and the press. Development of ethnic minority publicity initiatives and a special London-wide media intensive campaign will be an important area of activity.

A detailed knowledge of welfare benefits is essential, with experience of developing publicity and writing detailed information leaflets.

£14,781-£16,545 inc. Ref: CC6338.

Write to: GLC Staff Section, Room 693 or tel: 01-633 1650.

Application forms must be returned by 31 May 85.

To obtain your form write to the appropriate Staff Section, quoting the ref. and room number on the envelope, to: GLC, The County Hall, London SE1 7PB. Or telephone the number given.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer.

We invite applications from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

Job sharing arrangements are open to all applicants.

THE COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVES RESOURCE UNIT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

CHIRU provides information and advice to community health initiatives and encourages health professionals to offer appropriate support.

A Development Officer with a commitment to radical health policies is needed to co-ordinate a three person Unit. S/he should have community development organisational and public speaking skills.

The Unit is funded (June 1985) thus a major task will be to secure future funding. CHIRU is committed to equal opportunities and is currently based at The National Council for Voluntary Organisations, but wheelchair access is poor.

Salary scale — £8,823 — £11,158 + £1,300 London Weighting p.a.

For an application form write to The Personnel Officer, NCVO, 26 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3BU. Please return by 31st May.

NCVO is an equal opportunities employer.

SENIOR ACCOUNTS PERSON

To work in busy office, 5 minutes Liverpool Street Station. Must have wages, bought ledger and debt-chasing experience.

Hours 9-5.30 pm Monday to Friday Salary circa £8,500. Applicants 25/40 years of age.

Telephone Mr. White 01-377 1275 for an appointment.

society of civil & public servants

TRADE UNION RESEARCH OFFICER

The Society of Civil and Public Servants, which represents over 85,000 members in the Civil Service and other public bodies, invites applications for a post of Research Officer.

The post will involve preparation of policy and advisory papers for senior officers and general support for official negotiations. The postholder will be expected to take primary responsibility for work on particular policy areas and contribute to the work of the Research Department in all areas as required.

Candidates should be capable of a high standard of drafting work, be capable of preparing policy papers under pressure, be ready to work as part of a team, and be adaptable enough to deal with a wide variety of work. Preference will be given to candidates who have experience of trade union research or negotiating work, have relevant academic qualifications, or possess knowledge of industrial relations in the civil and public services.

The salary scale (subject to review with effect from 1st April, 1985) is £10,198, £10,742, £11,078, £11,817, £11,854, £11,792 and £12,028 including inner London Weighting. Annual leave is 30 days. Season ticket paid. Non-contributory pension scheme. Retirement is compulsory at age 60.

Applications should be sent to the General Secretary, Society of Civil and Public Servants, 154/155 Southwark Street, London SE1 0TU, enclosing full cv with details of education, employment history, trade union experience and other relevant information, together with a day-time telephone number.

Closing date for applications is 4th June, 1985.

The Society is an equal opportunities employer.

ADMINISTRATION AND LEGAL DEPARTMENT

CATERING OFFICER

PO25 — £13,326 - £14,355

A suitably qualified and experienced person required to manage and develop the catering arrangements for the City Council on a number of fronts, including the City Hall, civic functions, employment and cultural events, and a wide range of other catering including residential and cultural establishments.

Applications are invited from people with extensive management experience in catering and application forms from the HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION AND LEGAL DEPARTMENT, TOWN HALL, SHEFFIELD S1 2PH. CLOSING DATE: 25TH MAY.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

MANAGEMENT OFFICERS

Scale 3/4 bar 5

(£5,922 - £7,329 Bar £8,262)

Required within the Area Management Teams. The role of the Management Officer is being developed to cover all aspects of estate management duties for a given number of estates, including the preparation of reports, and a wide range of other duties including residential and cultural establishments.

Applications are invited from people with extensive management experience in housing and application forms from the HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION AND LEGAL DEPARTMENT, TOWN HALL, SHEFFIELD S1 2PH. CLOSING DATE: 25TH MAY.

For further details ring Dave Cowson on Sheffield 738146 or Les Pickford on Sheffield 724884.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS FROM THE ABOVE NAMED AND SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE PERSONNEL SECTION, HOUSING DEPARTMENT, TOWN HALL, SHEFFIELD S1 2PH.

Closing date: 2nd May.

City of Sheffield

An Equal Opportunity Employer

THE LABOUR PARTY

has a short-term vacancy for a

RESEARCH OFFICER

Arising from the absence of a research officer on maternity leave, there will be a short-term vacancy for a researcher in the Research Department. The area of responsibility includes policy on equal rights (including women's rights, and minority groups), policing policy and crime; general human rights issues; and policy and law reform. The post will last from 2 June until 13 December, 1985.

Duties will include the preparation of research and other papers; the provision of background and campaign information to all sections of the Party; and the servicing of the appropriate advisory committees and groups of the National Executive Committee.

Applicants must have a good understanding, experience and knowledge of the above issues, and have experience in preparing papers on campaigns, and drafting material on the above and related areas of policy. An Honorary Degree, though not essential, would be of considerable advantage.

Applicants must be members of the Labour Party. A background of activity in the Party, and in the wider Labour movement, would also be of considerable advantage.

Salary range £10,440 to £12,110 p.a., depending on appropriate experience in a similar capacity (Pay rise due).

Application forms are available from the Administrative and Personnel Officer, The Labour Party, 150 Waterloo Road, London SE17 1JT. Telephone 01-793 1884. The closing date for applications is 3 June, 1985. This is a re-advertisement of the post and previous applicants need not apply.

The Labour Party is an equal opportunities employer.

To Advertise in The Guardian

write or phone:

The Guardian Classified

Advertisement Department,

119 Farringdon Road,

London EC1R 3ER.

Tel.: 01-278 2332,

or 164 Deansgate,

Manchester M60 2RR.

Tel.: 061-832 7200, Ext. 2161.

Director

MRC Trauma Unit: Manchester

The Medical Research Council invites applications from medically qualified scientists for the post of full-time Director of the MRC Trauma Unit, Manchester. The person appointed will have an established reputation as a scientific investigator, be able to develop the Unit's research programme and have the ability to manage and co-ordinate a research team.

The Unit is concerned with the elucidation of the biological responses to injury by means of clinical, laboratory and experimental studies. The precise scope and emphasis of the Unit's future programme will be a matter for discussion between the successful candidate and the Council, but it is expected that the programme will include both clinical and non-clinical studies of metabolic responses to trauma and will continue to exploit the excellent facilities available to the Unit in Manchester.

An appointment to the Council's staff will be in accordance with the Council's terms and conditions of service. The salary will be within the NHS Consultant Grade and an honorary clinical contract at consultant level will be sought. The successful candidate will, if necessary, be offered assistance with moving expenses.

Employment Rehabilitation Centres

Psychologists

... to help people who have employment problems as a result of sickness or injury. As a member of a multi-disciplinary team, the psychologists will be involved in all aspects of the assessment and rehabilitation process including initial interview and appraisal, more intensive investigation and counselling when required, and advising on final draft reports.

The current vacancies are at Egham, Liverpool and Leicester, but others may arise elsewhere.

Candidates must have a degree in psychology with at least second class honours, or an equivalent or higher qualification in which psychology was taken as a main subject. Applications will be considered from psychologists (minimum age 20) in their final year of training.

Salary (under review): £6015-£8735. Starting salary within the range according to qualifications and experience.

Further similar vacancies may arise in this and other departments.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 3 June 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref G/2432.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

Manpower Services Commission

Middlesbrough Borough Council

RECREATION AND AMENITIES DEPARTMENT Multi-Cultural Centre Manager

£8532 — £9114

The Council has established a multi-cultural centre within the town centre, the main purpose of which is to provide a meeting place for the ethnic minority communities. It will also be a focus for developing Middlesbrough as a multi-racial / multi-cultural town.

The manager will be responsible for the day to day running of the centre as well as the establishment, development, monitoring and control of activities within it.

In addition to managerial and administrative/financial skills, the successful applicant must be able to demonstrate an ability and a commitment to work with various ethnic minority groups.

Application forms and job descriptions are available from and should be returned to the Personnel Officer, Middlesbrough Borough Council, PO Box 914, Riverside, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS1 2QG. Tel Middlesbrough 246432 Ext 3573.

Closing date 7 June 1985.

It is the policy of Middlesbrough Borough Council to provide equal employment opportunities and consideration will be given to all suitably experienced and qualified applicants regardless of handicap, sex or race.

The Council has a policy of inviting for interview all disabled persons who have the written support of their Disability Resettlement Officer.

Job sharing facilities are available.

MANAGEMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE

TWO POSTS OF "RECREATION MANAGER"

£12,171-£13,263

The Amenities and Recreation Department runs a wide range of activities and pursuits for people, young and not so young, who live in the Watford area and beyond.

The Borough Council demands first class management of a Leisure Centre, Sports Stadium, Swimming Baths, Community Centre, Parks and Playing Fields, Adventure Playgrounds, Indoor and Outdoor Entertainment and a Museum (in no particular order, all are important).

Two keen and resourceful managers are needed who will assist in the maximising of resources and the development of activities and amenities for all the people in the Watford area.

The managers' personal discipline, although not irrelevant, is secondary to the qualities of management and sensitive leadership. The successful candidates will be applicants who can demonstrate flair, drive and the ability to work with others coupled with wide interests.

Essential user car allowance, assistance with housing and full removal expenses paid.

Further details and an application form, to be returned by 3rd June 1985, may be obtained from the Personnel and Management Services Officer, Town Hall, Watford WD1 3SE. (Telephone: Watford 40175, Answerphone, 24 hours).

The Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer

BOROUGH OF WATFORD

Guardian Housing Association, part of the Anchor family, is a leading specialist in providing retirement housing for older people who wish to buy. We now have the following vacancy within our small and highly motivated management team working from the Association's Head Office in Oxford.

MARKETING MANAGER

Starting Salary circa £12,500 pa + Car

You will be responsible for carrying out market appraisals for proposed retirement housing developments, directing and monitoring the Association's national sales programme and managing a continuing market research activity. We are looking for a young and dynamic, partially or recently professionally qualified person, preferably a graduate with wide and varied interests. Previous experience in housing sales, either with a progressive agency or with a successful house builder/developer would be a considerable advantage.

For further information and an application form, write to: The Director, Guardian Housing Association Ltd, One Old London Street, Oxford OX1 1JF.



COMMUNITY SOLICITOR

We are looking for a Solicitor, preferably three-year qualified, to fill an established post in our small Advice Centre in Ears Court. Major areas of work are landlord/tenant, employment, welfare rights and immigration. Experience in at least one of these would be useful.

The post is GLC funded until March, 1986: it is hoped that the continued funding will be forthcoming.

Salary on scale S02.

For job description and application form please contact NUCLEUS, 298 Old Brompton Road, London SW5, Tel 01-373 1379.

REGISTERED CHARITY OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL REPUTE

REQUIRES A

PROJECT LIAISON OFFICER

To co-ordinate existing activities and set up new developments. Administration and secretarial background essential, along with ability to communicate and converse.

Position based in London with some travel involved in Greater London area. Car owner essential.

Excellent salary with good working conditions.

Apply: 01-959 0077

CARE SERVICES DIVISION

Playgroup Organiser

£11,652 — £12,273 inc.

As part of the partnership with voluntary groups in the Under Five field, we have developed close links with the Wandsworth Pre-School Playgroup Association and other voluntary playgroups. In addition the department operates three playbuses which not only offer support to playgroups but also to child-minders and summer play schemes.

The Playgroup Organiser has the key role in liaison with these services including the management of the grant-aid budget, the registration of playgroups and responsibility for the playbus service.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified workers who combine a capacity to liaise in a sensitive manner with the voluntary groups combined with an ability to manage the service.

For further information contact Derek Carter, Assistant Director, on 01-871 6293.

BETTER SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED PEOPLE

Instructor—Light Industrial Unit/Crafts.

Ref G/803. £7,017 — £8,994.

Abelene is a purpose built combined day centre which provides care, rehabilitation training and support for 120 mentally handicapped, 50 physically handicapped and 50 frail elderly members. We are looking for someone with enthusiasm and drive, who is prepared to develop the light industrial work undertaken. You will also need to be interested in our three client groups and take account of their needs. Because of the size of the Centre it is essential that you are prepared to work as part of a team. Flexibility of attitude and skills is important. Previous experience of this sort of work and a knowledge of craft skills and their application is essential. We are also looking for someone who has experience in working with any of our three client groups, preferably holding an appropriate professional qualification, e.g. Certificate in Social Service, Dip. TMM, or other appropriate professional qualification. Short listed candidates will be invited to visit the Centre prior to interview. For further information about the post please contact Nikki Wagstaff, Deputy Manager, 01-871 6341/2/3/4.

Instructor.

Ref. G/802. £7,017 — £8,313.

Roeampton SEC offers a wide range of educational opportunities to 50 mentally handicapped students who also learn to develop their daily living skills and take part in craft and leisure pursuits. You would be joining a very lively staff team who work hard and have a strong commitment in maintaining a high quality of service and providing a stimulating working and learning environment for staff and students. You will be particularly expected to develop a programme of craft skills, sports/recreational activities and ideally have an interest in teaching woodwork. Applicants with a CSS or DTMAA preferred. For an informal discussion and to arrange a visit please contact the Manager Terry Paskett, telephone 01-789 0848 or Roger Harris, Care Services Manager, telephone 01-871 6244.

Applications forms from Director of Social Services, Town Hall, London SW18 2PU. Telephone 01-871 6238. Please quote appropriate reference. Closing 31st May, 1985.

Wandsworth

an equal opportunity employer

SOUTHWARK COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS

In conjunction with
COMMISSION FOR RACIAL
EQUALITY

requires a

SENIOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER

The SCRO will serve as the Chief Officer of the Council. Applicants should be familiar with the structure of local authorities and other statutory / voluntary agencies, have proven administrative ability and be able to establish ongoing relationships with ethnic minority groups.

Salary £11,652-£14,574 (incl LW)

Contributory pension scheme. Application forms and further information from:

Southwark Council for Community Relations
352 Camberwell New Road, London SE5 0RW

Tel 01-274 6793

Closing date for returned application forms: 3rd June, 1985.

NORTH EAST WORK TRUST Wallsend Youth Unit

A Centre for Intermediate Treatment and Youth Activity

Unit Director

(£10,716 to £11,562)

This well established Unit provides a range of day and evening programmes for adolescent youngsters who are at risk of being removed from home into local authority care or custody. This voluntary agency works in close partnership with North Tyneside MBC. We have pioneered several new approaches including day care, community assessment and a girls' work project.

The Trust now seeks a new Director to lead the Unit into the next phase of its development. The Unit and Children's Resources in North Tyneside have recently been recognised by the Youth Unit will provide programmes involving both the Social Services and Education Departments (who will be jointly involved in the management). Applicants should have experience in both an educational and youth social work setting, be capable of leading a multi-disciplinary staff team, and preferably be professionally qualified. The Unit has recently attracted funding for a further three years.

Further details and application forms are available from the North East Work Trust, 67 Charlotte Street, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear NE28 7PU. Closing date for applications: 22nd May, 1985.

The North East Work Trust is an equal opportunities employer

IRISH IN GREENWICH PROJECT

This Greenwich based Irish Association has been established for just over one year and is now inviting applications for

COMMUNITY WORKERS (2 posts)

To develop and co-ordinate services provided by the Association and to establish and to ensure that an adequate structure exists to meet the needs of Irish people in the area. Sound administrative and communication skills are essential and knowledge of welfare rights, education or housing would be an asset.

We are looking for people with proven ability to work with other ethnic associations and community groups. Salaries at AP4 and AP5 (plus travelling allowance and Outer London Weighting). Applicants must be in sympathy with the anti-racist and anti-sexist policies of the Irish in Greenwich Project.

Both posts are funded by the GLC until April 1986.

Application Forms available from The Secretary, Irish in Greenwich Project, One 8th Floor, Riverside House, Renshaw Street, Woolwich, London SE18.

Closing date: 1st June 1985.

Family Support Registered Charity no. 277768

CENTRE SOCIAL WORKER

Salary 5/6 £7524 — £9114 p.a.

Family Support provides residential and day care facilities for families experiencing relationship problems. We require a social worker who will provide a full social work service to families.

The successful applicant needs to be experienced in family work and have energy and commitment to respond to the diverse demands within this client group. This is an opportunity for someone who enjoys the challenge of developing their own practice within a small multidisciplinary team.

Overnight stay required for staff holiday relief. Appropriate qualifications required. Starting salary according to experience.

Closing date for full applications Monday 3rd June.

Apply for forms to Mrs. J. Yates, Bishopscourt, Pitt Street, Gloucester.

TACKLING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT — A POSITIVE APPROACH

Are you concerned about the problems facing young people?

Could you lead a team of diverse people whose job it is to help them cope with life today?

Community Industry (CI) provides work for 7,000 young people each year in 57 areas throughout Great Britain. Funded by Central and Local Government, the work undertaken is of benefit to the Community. By giving individual support and guidance to the young people, CI aims to develop their work and social skills.

Our operation in Lambeth needs someone with a broad-based experience, preferably including the management of people, finance and materials to fill the post of:

AREA MANAGER

You will need to be fit and active; possess a current driving licence; have imagination, initiative and drive; be committed to our equal opportunities policy and be a good communicator. Knowledge of employment legislation, industrial relations and public-funded organisations would be useful.

Relevant life experience may be just as valuable as formal qualifications and professional experience. We welcome applications from women and men from all sections of the community.

We offer good conditions of service; a contributory pension scheme and a starting salary of £10,725 p.a. rising to £12,273 p.a., including London Weighting Allowance.

Further details and application form from: The Personnel Manager, Community Industry, 24 Highbury Crescent, London N5 1JK. Tel: 01-226 6662.

Completed application forms to be returned by 29th May, 1985.



Head of Consumer Services

£15,534 to £17,028 plus Car Allowance

Greenwich, an inner-city Riverside London Borough, places emphasis on its responsibilities towards Consumer Protection.

With the imminent retirement of the present Head of Consumer Services, we wish to appoint a successor with full remit for the enforcement of legislation and for widening and extending the Consumer Protection function within the Borough.

You will be a qualified Trading Standards Officer and will already have demonstrated a strong personal commitment within this key area of activity. Also, you should have spent at least 3 years in senior management, and be able to demonstrate an innovative and motivating style.

Both challenging and stimulating, this position calls for an in-depth knowledge of consumer issues and a keen appreciation of their political implications.

For further details and an informal discussion about this post, please telephone Mike Dudding on 01-854 8888, Ext. 8700.

Application form from Personnel and Management Services Officer, London Borough of Greenwich, Peggy Middleton House, 50 Woolwich New Road, Woolwich, London SE18 6HQ. Tel: 01-854 8888, Ext. 2121.

Closing date 31st May, 1985.

THE COUNCIL POSITIVELY WELCOMES APPLICATIONS FROM WOMEN, ETHNIC MINORITIES AND DISABLED PEOPLE



LEISURE ACTIVITIES OFFICER

Scale 4. £7,903 incl.

To work with pensioners in developing existing provision and encouraging new ideas. Life-history, reminiscence, projects using video, crafts, skills exchange, adult education and self-help groups will be relevant to this post. The worker will be expected to encourage pensioners to participate both as volunteers, and consumers, and to liaise with other organisations providing leisure, recreation and educational facilities.

Age Concern Lambeth is an equal opportunities employer and positively welcomes applications irrespective of race, creed, nationality, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation or responsibility for children or dependants.

For further details and application forms apply to the Co-ordinator, Age Concern Lambeth, 1-5 Acre Lane, SW2 8LJ. Tel: 01-274 7722, ext. 2264.

Closing date, 31st May, 1985.

This post is funded by the Greater London Council until 31st March, 1986.

STOKE NEWINGTON CO-OPERATIVES INITIATIVES needs a CO-ORDINATOR/DEVELOPMENT WORKER

The S.N.C.I. is an innovative employment project committed to setting up co-operatives with young black people. We need a Co-ordinator to work in an environmental subject and practical work co-ops and provide support for co-ops already trading. The worker must have administrative and basic accounting skills, office management skills, have a working knowledge of co-operatives, be able to develop training programmes, assist in organising feasibility studies and liaise with funding bodies.

The starting salary is £10,700 pa.

Please apply for application forms to the S.N.C.I. Ltd, 124 Stamford Hill, London N16.

Closing date 20th May, 1985.

The S.N.C.I. is funded by the GLC and Hackney Council and is an equal opportunities employer.

THE WOODLAND TRUST

requires an

ASSISTANT REGIONAL OFFICER

to assist with the management of its woodland properties in south east England. The successful applicant will be at least 34 years old and ideally have a degree in an environmental subject and practical experience of woodland management and conservation.

This is a demanding position requiring considerable travel, for which an allowance will be paid.

The post is grant-aided by the Countryside Commission. Salary negotiable up to £10,000.

Please apply for a full job description and application form to: The Woodland Trust, Westgate, Grafton, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 2JL. Tel: 0476 74287.

IMMIGRATION LAW PRACTITIONERS' ASSOCIATION

requires

AN ADMINISTRATOR

responsible to the executive to arrange and publicise events, and to take charge of the running of the association.

Three month contract (subject to extension), 14 hours per week. Salary: £10,000 per annum pro rata.

For details and application forms, write: Secretary, ILPA, 11 South Square, Gray's Inn, London WC1R 5EU. Closing date for applications: 1 June 1985.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICE INSPECTOR

SOCIAL SERVICES INSPECTORATE — EAST MIDLANDS REGION

The Social Services Inspectorate was set up on 1 April and incorporates the staff of the previous Social Work Service.

The Social Services Inspectorate, in association with administrative and other professional colleagues, informs and advises Ministers and the Department and furthers Ministerial policies across the range of Departmental functions, but with particular regard to the personal social services.

As a member of a small team in the Inspectorate, you will help to provide the professional link between the Department and the statutory and voluntary social services organisations in the East Midlands Region. You will participate in inspections of field services and may carry some subject responsibility in Region.

You must hold a CQSW or its equivalent, and should preferably have a degree. You should normally also have proven experience and ability in the field of Social Services and

at least 5 years' relevant senior management experience.

The post is in the East Midlands Region and you may obtain further information by contacting Mr B Stimpson, Assistant Chief Inspector, DHSS, Social Services Inspectorate, East Midlands Region, 5th Floor, Birkbeck House, 14-16 Trinity Square, Nottingham, NG1 4DC. Telephone 0502 475511.

Starting salary (under review) within the range of £12895 - £17890 according to qualifications and experience. Promotion prospects.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 4 June 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. G/6536.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY

General Manager

Applications are invited by Haringey Health Authority for the appointment of District General Manager.

Haringey Health Authority covers the geographical area of the London Borough of Haringey, with an estimated resident population of approximately 207,000. Hospital Services are provided through three hospitals, including the North Middlesex Hospital, and the District, with a revenue budget for 1984/5 of £36 million, employs approximately 3,600 staff.

In the face of declining resources, the Authority has embarked upon an ambitious programme to move resources into priority care areas, especially into Mental Health, and services for the elderly. This will be a major task for the General Manager, who will be directly and personally accountable to the District Health Authority, and who will lead management in the identification and achievement of objectives, and the planning of Health Care Services and their effective implementation. You will need considerable experience of, and success in, managing a large-scale organisation, and qualities of leadership are fundamental.

The appointment will be for an initial fixed term period of three years, renewable. Remuneration will be by negotiation.

Further information for this post may be obtained from and applications should be addressed to: Mr L. A. Bains, CBE, DL, Chairman, Haringey Health Authority, Mountford House, The Green, London, N15 4AN. Telephone: 01-808 1081 Ext 105 (Miss Jean Smith).

Closing date: 28th May, 1985.

Haringey HEALTH AUTHORITY

MANAGING DIRECTOR



WANDSWORTH TRAINING AGENCY

Circa £15,000

29 days leave p.a.

Wandsworth Training Agency is an independent voluntary organisation and a registered charity which receives the bulk of its funds from the Manpower Services Commission and Wandsworth Borough Council. It was set up in 1983 to provide high quality YTS and Community Programme Schemes within the Borough of Wandsworth. The Company, which is limited by guarantee, has a turnover of £14 million, offers training and work experience places to 360 local people and has a permanent staffing complement of 45.

The Managing Director, who reports to the Board of Directors, is a voting member of the Board and will be responsible for the overall management development and forward planning of the Agency and its constituent projects. Applicants should be committed to the provision of high quality training within the Borough, have extensive management experience and a comprehensive understanding of MSC sponsored training and employment initiatives.

For further details and an application form, contact Gill Roffey, Personnel Officer, Wandsworth Training Agency, 17-27 Garratt Lane, Wandsworth, London SW18. Tel: 01-870 8853. The closing date for the receipt of applications is 31 May, 1985.

WTA is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications regardless of sex, race or disability.

W.R.V.S. HOUSING ASSOCIATION

DIRECTOR

The WRVS Housing Association based in London with over 800 units in management and a further 200 in development seeks a suitably qualified Director. Excellent salary and prospects for a senior experienced candidate.

The Association provides a wide range of housing for the elderly as well as hostel accommodation for single people with special needs.

The Association has 13 office-based and 50 scheme-based staff. The Director is the senior paid officer of the Association, responsible to the committee of management for further developments and for supervision of management.

For further details and an application form, which must be returned by Wednesday, 22nd May, please contact:

The Director
WRVS HOUSING ASSOCIATION
17 Old Park Lane, London W1Y 4AJ
or Miss Stowe on 01-499 6040, ext. 156

CHARTERHOUSE-IN- SOUTHWARK

Preparing Teenagers For Family Placements

Westminster has a well-established Community Fostering Scheme which provides family placements for difficult adolescents. Community foster-parents provide time-limited, contract-based placements and are paid a fee in addition to boarding-out allowances.

A residential unit has been established to provide short-term placements for 6 teenagers in order to prepare them for placement with community foster-parents. In addition the unit offers 2 respite/disruption placements.

The staff in the unit must be committed to the belief that every young person has the right to live with a family and to be placed with properly supported and adequately rewarded foster-parents. The unit will run on a mixture of key worker and group work with the main thrust of the work being on preparing residents for family placements. We wish to complete the staffing complement of nine by recruiting:

Deputy Officer-in-Charge

—GRADE 5 (Ref. SS 31) Salary £9,510-£11,043

You will be professionally qualified and have previous experience of working with teenagers. You will take on key worker responsibility and be committed to working as a member of a team.

For further information and to arrange an informal visit, telephone Miss Glensy Jerrin, Officer-in-Charge, on 01 229 0180.

Residential Social Worker

Grade 1/2 (Ref. SS 32)

You will be professionally qualified or have previous experience of working with teenagers. You will take on key worker responsibility and be committed to working as a member of a team.

For further information and to arrange an informal visit, telephone Miss Glensy Jerrin, Officer-in-Charge, on 01 229 0180.

*Salary scale £5,859-£8,058 according to age and experience with a minimum of £7,497 for those candidates with at least one year's residential experience. Minimum of £9,252 with a recognised qualification (CQSW, CSS, CRCCYP). Possible progression to £8,994 for unqualified staff.

To obtain application form please send postcard, telephone or call at the Personnel Management Division (quoting appropriate reference number) to P.O. Box 240, WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL, City Hall, Victoria Street, SW1E 6QP, telephone number 01-334 5955 (24-hour Answerphone service). Closing date: 3rd June, 1985.

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN & ADULTS HOMES FOUNDATION

Will shortly be opening a group home for ten mentally handicapped adults in Cranleigh, Surrey, and require the following staff:

RESIDENT OFFICER-IN-CHARGE

Salary £7,065-£7,746 per annum

RESIDENTIAL CARE OFFICERS (3)

Salary £6,249-£7,065 per annum

Applications are invited from persons, preferably with a relevant qualification and previous experience, who possess the enthusiasm, drive and ability to motivate and assist residents to achieve maximum independence and integration into community life.

Sleeping-in and weekend working will be required on a rota basis.

The Officer-in-Charge is required to live in the self-contained one-bedroom flat provided, for which a deduction of £999 pa will be made.

Further details and application form (please enclose a 9"x4" size) from: Director of Homes Foundation, MENCAP National Centre, 123 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0RT. Closing date for completed application forms: 12th June, 1985.

Social Worker

Hillingdon Hospital

£8,661-£11,373

We need a mature, experienced and qualified (CQSW) person, with skills in developing rehabilitation and counselling work on our surgical wards and with interest in the elderly, to join a group of Social Workers and Welfare Officers.

We can offer regular supervision; and participation in the day Duty System gives varied experience. Our Department enjoys regular meetings, training opportunities, a variety of methods of work, good relations with community and residential services, and good social support. Hillingdon is a District General Hospital and links with out-patients and community care are vital.

For further information, please telephone Cynthia Childs, Principal Social Worker or Louise Simons, Team Leader, on Uxbridge 38282. Application form and further details from the Personnel Office, REF: 88/21/02X, Civic Centre, Uxbridge, Telephone Uxbridge 38282 (24-hour answering service). Applications from disabled persons welcome. Closing date 29.5.85.

District Organiser

OXFAM needs someone with leadership skills who is versatile and energetic to assist with the development of our shops in North London. We shall be looking for someone with organising ability, communication skills and a commitment to OXFAM's aims and objectives. Retail experience is highly desirable. A clean driving licence is essential and a car is provided. The main task will be working with groups of volunteers who are engaged in running our gift shops.

Starting salary is £7,960 per annum plus £630 pa London weighting, rising by annual increments to £9,774 per annum.

For further details write to the Personnel Department, Oxfam, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ, enclosing an a.s. Closing date is 29th May, 1985.

Oxfam is an Equal Opportunities Employer



HOUSING ASSISTANT

(c. £8,500 p.a. + car allowance)

The person appointed will work within one of our area teams which each provides the full range of housing services for over 1,000 tenants. Applicants should be able to work under pressure and be committed to providing a high level of service to our tenants. A knowledge of welfare benefits would be especially useful.

The Association operates in an area of high housing stress with a multi-racial community, and is committed to meeting a wide range of local housing needs. For this reason applicants with experience of working with ethnic minorities are particularly welcome to apply.

Closing date: 31 May 1985.

Application form and job description from: Jane Hensley, Secretary to the Association, Newington & Hensley Housing Association, 123 Kingsland High Street, LONDON E8 2PB.

TEL: 01-254 1272

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Want to give a good deal to the elderly?

Principal Service Managers (3 posts)
Elderly — North-West, Rees House and South / 3

Grade PO4 £13,983-£15,015

Croydon Social Services is creating a new, comprehensive service to the elderly, based on local geographical areas.

We are seeking dynamic and dedicated senior managers who are heading for the top. Each manager will have a budget of over £2m and an exciting range of community and residential provision. These need skilled management and co-ordination to ensure that elderly people receive a planned "package" of care.

The job requires management and leadership skills of a high order, and a particularly sound track record in team building.

Together with the Assistant Director and the other two PSMs, you will be expected to develop a more detailed strategy for serving and working with the elderly and to ensure that our provision is of a high quality.

Considerable importance will be attached to skills in communication, staff recognition, helping employees to provide a sensitive, flexible service and in monitoring.

An overall restructuring is also occurring to create an adult services division. Principal Service Managers for the Mentally Handicapped, the Mentally Ill and Physically Handicapped respectively are also being appointed. You will, therefore, be Senior Members of the new Divisional Management Team.

If you have a record of practical achievement in working at senior level in services for the elderly or the equivalent, we would like to hear from you. A degree and a relevant qualification will be required.

For an informal discussion about these posts, please telephone Andrew Leigh, Assistant Director (Adult Services), 01-686 4433 ext 2520.

Application forms available from Social Services Central Administration, Room 225, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon, Tel 01-686 4433 ext 2377.



An equal opportunity employer

Threshold Single Persons Housing Association

Threshold is a lively association based in Wandsworth working in a multi-racial environment to provide a variety of housing for single people and children in five South and West London boroughs. We have 500 flats in management, with a further 400 in our development pipeline, as well as a substantial programme of Shared Housing projects. We now wish to fill the following posts:

SENIOR FINANCE OFFICER (new post)

Salary £10,725-£11,355

To assume a major role in the control of our financial administration, including responsibility for budget and cashflow management and monitoring, as well as accounting for the Finance Manager in his absence. Candidates must be competent in general accounting procedures and a knowledge of computers would be welcomed.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (new post)

Salary £10,725-£11,355

To undertake the post-purchase project management of new and rehab developments for full rent. Shared Housing and home ownership schemes in the Borough of Wandsworth. He/she must be able to maintain good working relationships with funding authorities, have sufficient technical know-how to supervise consultants through all stages of project design and building contracts, possess the necessary skills to follow required cost control and administrative procedures. Driving licence essential.

PROPERTY BUYER

Salary £10,725-£11,355

To purchase land and property to maintain our forward development programme. He/she must have the drive and perseverance to seek out and pursue opportunities, and be able to negotiate with agents and vendors and liaise effectively with funding authorities, consultants and solicitors. Driving licence essential.

For all the above posts, familiarity with housing association work would be a distinct advantage. However, a commitment to providing public sector housing to people in need and a proven ability to do the job are more important than formal qualifications.

Benefits include car allowance and car loan scheme for essential car users, pension, LVS.

For further details and an application form or an informal discussion about any post, please contact: Mary Tyler, Admin & Personnel Officer, THRESHOLD, 227A Garraway Lane, London SW16 4DT. Telephone 01-871 1364.

Threshold is an Equal Opportunity Employer and especially welcomes applications from ethnic minority and women candidates.

Royal College of General Practitioners

ASSISTANT IN THE REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Salary in the range £7,300 — £9,500 p.a. inclusive London Weighting

This is a very busy department of the College dealing with the registration of new Members, the updating of their personal details, and providing information to other College departments and the regional Faculties. We are looking for an experienced computer operator / registration clerk whose duties will include the updating of the computer database, word processing, clerical duties and some typing. The applicant will be able to work on his/her own initiative and will also be used to working under pressure to meet frequent deadlines. He/she will also be a member of a small team and will if necessary be expected to take over the duties of a colleague. The post is answerable to the Registration Officer.

Telephone 01-581 3232 extension 201 for an application form and further details of the College

ARCHIVE AND CENTRAL FILING CLERK

Salary in the range £7,300 — £9,500 p.a. inclusive of London Weighting

As a result of recent reorganisation within the College, a vacancy has arisen for a person who will be responsible for the streamlining of the central filing system for current files and archive material. Duties will include a review of the filing system on a regular basis, the indexing of material, the upkeep of files and the retrieval of documents upon request. Ideally, the successful candidate will have previous experience in Library or Records work and should have some knowledge of computers. This post reports to the Clerk to Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

An international non-profit organisation is seeking to employ an experienced Administrative Assistant to work in the United Kingdom.

The successful applicant will have extensive experience in administrative matters at an international level and will be required to work in close co-operation with the organisation's Executive Director and to assume responsibility for a number of particular areas of the organisation's work.

The job will entail working from the organisation's head office and will predominantly involve close liaison and contact with its national offices throughout the world on a range of issues from fundraising to program work. Fluency in French, German, Spanish or other European languages would be an asset.

Applications are invited including a curriculum vitae, an indication of the salary level expected and an outline of why the applicant seeks employment with a non-profit organisation, to be sent to:

DL 115 THE GUARDIAN
164 Deansgate, Manchester M60 2RE

CHRISTIAN AID

TWO AREA SECRETARIES

One for Lincolnshire/Leicestershire and the other for North Yorkshire.

Candidates — men or women — must have a clear commitment to the Christian faith and to issues of poverty and oppression worldwide. Good organising ability and communication skills essential, plus experience in public speaking.

A current driving licence is required.

Details and application form from: Head of Community Education Department, Christian Aid, P.O. Box 1, London SW9 6BH.

Please indicate area in which you are interested, and enclose photocopy a.s.s. Closing date for applications 3rd June with interviews about two weeks later.

CITY OF LONDON Social Services Department

Medium Secure Psychiatric Provision: North East Thames Region

SALARY: £11,619 to £12,771 p.a. inclusive

Experienced in work with the mentally disordered? An exciting and challenging opportunity awaits an experienced and qualified social worker. He/she will be attached to the purpose-built Dents Hill Unit at the Bethlem Royal Hospital and based with the City's psychiatric social work team at St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Eight beds at this unit are to be used by those patients from three Health Districts (City and Hackney, Tower Hamlets & Newham) in the North East Thames Region who are temporarily too disruptive for their local psychiatric hospital. They will be referred from prison and special hospitals as well as from ordinary psychiatric hospitals.

The social worker will be expected to fully participate in the work of the multi-disciplinary team at the Unit, which includes two other social workers, and will play a vital role in the assessment, treatment and after care of patients from the three Health Districts. Good communication and liaison with the relevant personnel of health, probation and social services in the Districts, particularly in the City and Hackney, will be essential.

The social worker will make a significant contribution to the planning of services and policy for the future in relation to MENTRA and the City and Hackney. He/she will also be involved with training and research. A person who is keenly interested in the development of facilities and innovative approaches is sought.

Good administrative and organisational skills will be needed as well as the professional confidence and maturity to take responsibility for this unusual job.

The post is funded for three years initially. Car drivers/owners preferred.

Further information and application form from Elizabeth Crowther, Director of Social Services, Milton Court, Moor Lane, London EC2.

For informal discussion contact: John Loughran or Elizabeth Crowther on 01-695 0330 extn. 2212.

Closing date for applications: 3rd June, 1985.

RESEARCH OFFICER HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Scale 5 £8,181 p.a. — £8,915 p.a. inclusive

This is a key post, with fast-developing responsibilities for housing research and computer development. You will conduct research projects and collect and present statistical information across the whole range of housing functions. In addition, you will maintain and develop an already thriving network of contacts throughout the department and outside.

This will include development of a "research network" in the department, involving the identification and co-ordination of all staff with research skills.

You will also develop use of the department's computer systems for research and management information, training staff where necessary. Currently, systems are being implemented on the department's own Microdata M9000 mini-computer, on Sirius and IBM micro-computers, and on an IBM mainframe, using packages such as SPSS.

You should be a graduate in a relevant field, preferably with one to two years' experience in a research capacity. Experience as a user of computer packages is required.

You must be a good communicator, both in writing and orally. An enquiring mind and an interest in housing / social policy is essential, as is an ability to develop ideas quickly with positive results. Initiative and originality will be encouraged, while training will be provided, comprising a mix of external courses and "on-the-job".

Please telephone Martin Ferguson (Uxbridge 50111, ext. 3370) or Les Hobbs (ext. 2178) for an informal discussion about this varied and challenging opportunity. Flexibility is required.

Application forms for this post, quoting Reference Number HCD/21/85, available from the Personnel Division, Civic Centre, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PH. Telephone: Uxbridge 50588 (24-hour answering service available). Closing date: 29th May, 1985.

Hillingdon

Applications from disabled persons will be welcomed.

The Thomas Coram Foundation for Children CORAM CHILDREN'S CENTRE

SOCIAL WORKER

(FULL TIME OR PART TIME JOB SHARE)
£9,477 — £11,925 p.a. plus London Weighting £1,246 or pro rata

Do you like and understand the under-fives and their needs?

Do you want the freedom and opportunities afforded by working in a Children's Day Care Centre (for 100 children) run by a dynamic voluntary organisation?

Do you want to work in a multi-disciplinary team of nursery teachers, nursery nurses, visiting doctors, speech therapists, health visitors, toy library organisers and kitchen staff?

Do you have field work, group work and family work skills and want to develop them?

Do you want to work in the heart of London in a socially and ethnically mixed community?

If 'Yes' is the answer to all these questions, then we ask you to apply for the Social Worker's post at the Coram Children's Centre.

Please write or telephone for a Job Description and Application Form to Mrs. P. J. Manning, Administrative Assistant, The Thomas Coram Foundation for Children, 40 Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AZ (telephone 01-278 2424).

Closing date for applications: 31st May 1985.

CYNON-TAF H.A. LTD

HOUSING MANAGER

Salary £10,404-£12,645

This association has 350 rehab units in management in Cynon Valley. One hundred units will be developed this year, a new build scheme is on site and a sheltered complex will be completed next year.

We seek to appoint a suitably qualified person to take responsibility for all aspects of housing management; to work within a small, highly committed, team and share their concern about the severe housing problems of this valley.

Letters of application, including cv, addressed to: The Director, Cynon-Taf H.A., 17-19 Cardiff St, Aberdare, Mid Glam CF44 7DP, must arrive not later than Monday, 3rd June, 1985.

VOLUNTARY ACTION CAMDEN

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT

a registered charity with £1 million annual budget, is seeking a

— good knowledge and experience of financial and management accounting, especially of all aspects of salary payments.

— general knowledge and experience of micro-based computer systems and an interest in developing their use.

— a commitment to the philosophy of and an interest in the work of a non-profit-making charity.

In return, we offer £10,725-£12,273 per annum; 5 weeks' holiday; superannuation scheme.

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applicants from all sections of the community.

Full job description and application form from Gillian Hall, Voluntary Action Camden, 25/31 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SE. (01-388 2071).

***** We are looking for a *****

NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKER

to work with young people in a multi-racial community of the City of Westminster. The person appointed will be the only worker on this project and will be required to identify the needs and interests of young people (particularly of Asian origin) and to develop initiatives appropriate to these needs.

Experience of developing initiatives with young people essential.

Salary £2,000 year — job share possible.

Further information contact: Tom Potts, BVV, 17 Gower Street, Westminster SW1P 3BT. Tel: 01-693 8907.

BVV is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

INTERMEDIATE TREATMENT FUND INFORMATION OFFICER

Required for the ITF — a government-sponsored fund established to grant aid voluntary projects providing community care for young offenders.

Responsibilities will include maintenance and development of the Fund's information programme, including analysis of applications, monitoring of awards made, contribution to Fund publications and promotion of Fund services through a variety of media.

Applicants with relevant academic or professional qualifications, should have at least 2 years' experience in a voluntary organisation or social work / education related field. Knowledge of micro-computers an advantage.

Salary: according to experience but not less than £10,000.

Further details and application form from: Judy Lister, Intermediate Treatment Fund, 33 King Street, London WC2E 8JD, Tel 01-379 6171.

Closing date: 30th May, 1985.



STONHAM HOUSING ASSOCIATION PETERBOROUGH BRANCH

SENIOR PROJECT WORKER

This is a new post for an existing project which offers hostel accommodation for 8 people. The Senior Project Worker will be responsible for the effective running of the scheme. This would involve supporting and befriending the residents and preparing them for a move to more permanent and independent accommodation. He/she will be assisted by one other member of staff. Relevant experience is necessary and sleeping-in duties will be required. Salary £7,254.

Closing date 24 May, 1985.

Application form and further details from: P. Horsley, Gloucester House, 23a London Road, Peterborough, Tel: Peterborough 48822.

HUNTINGDON BRANCH

PROJECT WORKER

The project offers temporary accommodation for 7 people in two houses in Huntingdon. The Project Worker will assist the Senior Project Worker in the effective running of the project. The aim of the project is to provide support for the residents and prepare them for a move to more permanent and independent accommodation. Experience desirable. Salary £5,061.

Closing date 31 May 1985.

Application and further details from: R. Waterfield, Secretary to Management Committee, Probation Office, Grammar School Walk, Huntingdon, Tel: Huntingdon 57348.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX

This Association currently has the following vacancy:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (FIELD OFFICER SUPPORT)

Based: Team Valley Estates, Gateshead. Circa £7,000

required to assist the North East Area Field Officers with their administrative tasks.

Main duties will include minute taking, maintaining records, dealing with day-to-day enquiries.

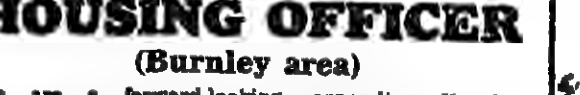
The successful candidate will have a flexible approach to work; good communication skills, numeracy and administrative ability are essential, as is experience of minute taking and drafting reports.

Generous leave, luncheon vouchers and contributory pension scheme.

For job description and application form please WRITE on a postcard to: Personnel Department, NACAB, Myddleton House, 118-123 Pentonville Road, London N1 9LZ.

CLOSING DATE: 31st May, 1985.

All applicants considered on basis of suitability for post regardless of sex, race, marital status or disability.



Bradford & Northern Housing Association

HOUSING OFFICER (Burnley area)

We are a forward-looking, expanding Housing Association, with a current stock of about 4,000 units. We are seeking a mature person, preferably aged 30+.

The appointment entails the management of about 800 units around the Burnley area. Applicants should either be professionally qualified or have at least five years' practical experience in estates management.

They should also be able to demonstrate maturity of judgment and leadership in the environment of a small office. Own transport and a clean driving licence are essential.

Salary range £7,067-£9,960 p.a.

For application form please contact the Chief Housing Officer, Bradford & Northern Housing Association Ltd, Butterfield House, Otley Rd, Otley, Shipley, West Yorkshire BD17 7HF. Tel 0274 588440. Enquiries should be marked "staff application — confidential".

NORCARE LIMITED

PROJECT LEADER

To run a 13-bed dispersed hostel scheme for ex-offenders located in two properties in Blaydon and Gateshead.

Duties will include selection and support of residents, assistance with re-entrance and re

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

THE GUARDIAN Wednesday May 15 1985 19

TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER

£17,580 — £18,660

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE?

- Work under pressure?
- Manage and lead a large number of staff?
- Handle a budget of £250k?
- Demonstrate high quality administrative skills?

If you can answer 'Yes' to these questions, you could be the person we're looking for.

We've recently reorganised our General Services Division and we need a General Services Officer to take over from the present incumbent who retires in June. You will be responsible through three Section Heads for a number of services including:

- maintenance of 40 administrative offices across the borough and provision of support services including housekeeping, portage, cleaning and security
- emergency planning and the Council's emergency services
- telecommunications
- the Council's printing services
- staff restaurants

• the range of administrative support services for Town Clerk's Department

In addition, you will be responsible personally for supervision of the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages and organisation of the Council's ceremonial events and you will represent the Division on the departmental management group.

This is a key senior post for which previous local government experience will be a distinct advantage. We are looking for a man or woman with proven management skills who has the tact and sensitivity to work with a wide range of people and the ability to cope with the stresses of an extremely demanding job.

For more information and an informal chat about the appointment, please ring Howard Miller on 01-720 0211, Ext. 2354 or Mrs. Weston on Ext. 2012. Southwark is an equal opportunity employer. Applications are welcome from candidates regardless of sex or ethnic origin and from registered disabled persons.

Telephone 01-720 2870 (24-hour answering service) any time for an application form, or write to, on a postcard, to: The Personnel Officer, London Borough of Southwark, 25 Commercial Way, London SE16 6DG.

Please quote reference G/15438 and job title.

Last date for receipt of completed application forms: 18.5.85.

Southwark a London borough

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

The Regional Park Authority is a unique, independent statutory body, set up in 1967, to develop some 10,000 acres of land and water stretching 23 miles from Warr in Hertfordshire to Bromley-by-Bow in East London, with the aim of providing opportunities for recreation, sport, entertainment and leisure. The Authority has an active land acquisition programme and to date controls about 2,700 acres, of which some 2,000 acres are available for passive recreation.

Applications are now invited for the following posts within the Park Authority's Ranger Service which has recently been integrated with the Countryside Management Service and is actively involved in opening up the Park's countryside areas to the public. Consequently, the Rangers now work closely with the Countryside Manager, Countryside Interpreter and Schools & Youth Liaison Officer on a variety of projects in addition to their traditional patrols and byway enforcement roles.

HEAD RANGER

£3,180-£3,771, Scale 6 (Inclusive of London Weighting)

To be responsible for the overall supervision and co-ordination of the Ranger Service consisting of 20 personnel.

Applicants must have considerable experience in countryside and staff management.

SENIOR RANGERS (2 posts)

£2,181-£2,518, Scale 5 (Inclusive of London Weighting)

To assist the Head Ranger in the day-to-day management, programming and organisation of the Ranger Service.

Previous experience within a ranger service is desirable together with the ability to motivate and lead others.

The successful applicants for all 3 posts will be expected to work on a rota which provides 7 days per week supervisory coverage of the Ranger Service.

The remuneration package includes a 7 weeks' annual holiday allowance with removal and relocation expenses in approved circumstances, free life assurance and contributory pension scheme.

Application forms and further details are available from the Establishment Officer, Mid-Swift, 212 SHG, Closing date: 3rd June, 1985.

Suffolk County Council

Planning Department
Suffolk Rural Development Area

PROJECT OFFICER

Salary scale 5/6: £7,524-£9,114 pa

Here is a challenging opportunity to initiate, encourage and co-ordinate social and community projects and to develop co-operation between public agencies.

A Rural Development Programme is being prepared for 119 parishes in Central and North-East Suffolk following its designation by the Development Commission as a Rural Development Area. The Project Officer, whose contract will be for three years, will be expected to contribute to the formulation and implementation of this Programme.

A degree or professional qualification relevant to rural problems is desirable. Applicants should have experience in related work with local government and voluntary organisations and be effective communicators capable of organising and stimulating implementation of a wide range of projects with a considerable degree of independence. Car essential.

Further details and application forms (to be returned by 31st May, 1985) are available from: County Planning Officer, 21 Edmund House, Rope Walk, Ipswich, IP4 1LZ. Tel Ipswich (0473) 55801 ext 6516.

HOUSING Administrative Assistant

Housing Association Unit
Sc.4. £7,803-£8,577 inclusive.

The objective of the Unit is to assist and promote, by means of financial support and advice, housing associations working within the Borough.

You will be involved in: processing of application forms for financial assistance; communicating with other Council Departments; housing associations and the Department of the Environment; maintaining accurate records and regularly reviewing progress of schemes.

Applicants' skills should include numeracy, audio-typing and, preferably shorthand.

Application forms from London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (Personnel), Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith W6 9JU, telephone 01-274 0904 (24-hour answering service), quoting ref: HAFAS. Closing date: 30th May, 1985.

Hammersmith & Fulham

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Hillingdon Legal Resource Centre

requires

1. SOLICITOR OR BARRISTER

2. WELFARE RIGHTS WORKER

dealing mainly with casework and some community work.

For details contact: D. King, c/o H.L.R.C., 12 Harold Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex, UB8 4QW. Closing date 27 May 1985.

GLC funded.

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

Room to Grow

— in every sense! In 1985 Barnardo's is initiating a further 5 new "demonstration model" projects in Scotland for children and families with special needs. To enable this and the development of existing work, the Edinburgh based Divisional Management Team is being augmented by the appointment of a further

ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL DIRECTOR

£12,981 — £14,013 per annum

The appointment carries responsibility for the management and development of a small group of existing projects and the planning and development of new work to meet outstanding needs.

The post offers good opportunities to build on previous experience in developing new concepts of care: implementing policy; managing staff and resources; developing high quality practice in an inter-professional approach and contributing to the corporate management of the Division in Scotland.

Applicants should be qualified social workers able to provide significant evidence of their skills and achievements to date, both at professional and managerial level.

Barnardo's is a Christian child care organisation and offers conditions of service broadly in line with local authorities. Applications for posts are welcomed from persons irrespective of disability, marital status, sex or race. Transferable pension, relocation and essential car user allowances are payable.

Applications and enquiries to John Rice, Divisional Director (Child Care), Scottish Divisional HQ, 235 Concorde Road, Edinburgh, Tel 031-334 9893.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 29th May, 1985.



WOLVERHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Salary Scale £18,385 — £17,371

Applications are invited for this important and challenging post from Solicitors who can demonstrate professional and managerial ability of the highest order.

Reporting directly to the Director (there is no Deputy post), the postholder will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Legal and Administrative divisions of the Department and will be expected to contribute significantly to the wider corporate management of the Council's activities.

Wolverhampton is a multi-cultural Borough facing most of the problems associated with inner city areas and a commitment to solving these problems is essential. On the other hand, the Borough possesses many pleasant residential areas and first class shopping and recreational facilities and enjoys easy access to the adjoining countryside and excellent communications to all parts of the country.

Further information and application forms from the Director of Legal & Administrative Services, Civic Centre, St. Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1JH. Telephone (0902) 22811, Ext. 2202. Closing date: 29th May, 1985.

Wolverhampton Council welcomes applications from all sections of the Community, irrespective of an individual's sex, ethnic origin or colour and from people with disabilities who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

WOLVERHAMPTON

the pace setter

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF KNOWSLEY

Temporary Post for 12 months Funded by M.S.C.

ASSISTANT LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Salary £2,419 — 35 hours per week

An enthusiastic Assistant Landscape Architect is required to work on environmental improvements and conservation projects within the Urban Fringe.

He/she will be based within the Departmental Landscape Team but will be expected to work independently. The experience will be varied and interesting and will include project identification and design, negotiation and supervision of site works and labour. Applicants must possess a minimum of Part 2 of the Landscape Institute scale of examinations. Own transport and clean licence would be an advantage.

Further information and application forms can be obtained from Mr. P. Cunliffe, Community Programme Managing Agency, Bridgetfield Centre, Cambridge Lane, Halewood, Merseyside, L26 6LH. Telephone: 051-487 5030, to whom they should be returned not later than 30th May, 1985.

THE CATHOLIC INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

GENERAL SECRETARY

CIR is seeking to appoint a new General Secretary, to take over responsibility from January 1986 for the management, overall policy and direction of the organisation.

CIR is an independent organisation, which provides volunteer technical assistance overseas and a specialised education programme at home and abroad on issues of international poverty, social justice and Third World development.

Applicants must be members of the Roman Catholic Church.

Salary: in the region of £12,000.

Closing date for application: 21st June 1985. Interviews will be held 15th to 30th July 1985.

For full details and an application form, please write to Sue Chapman, Chairwoman of the Executive Committee, CIR, 22 Coleman Fields, London N1 7AF.

Agree with us and supporting letter, describing your suitability for the post, by 7th June, 1985, to: Assistant Director, C.R.E., 4 Robert Place, London SW1W 6RT.

COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL ENGLAND

is the country's leading independent rural conservation group (with 30,000 members). It is looking for a

SENIOR PLANNER/CAMPAIGNER

to fill one of the most challenging positions in planning today. This post offers unique opportunities for helping influence environmental land use policies at local, national and EEC levels, at a time when such matters — and rural conservation particularly — are taking on growing political significance.

To fill this important post, (currently, Assistant Director Policy in CPRE's strategic national office in London, you will probably be under 40 and a qualified planner, with a solid background in local authority planning, but you will also need acute national political awareness and a taste for lobbying and research. The work is unusually challenging and varied. It demands resourcefulness and adaptability.

Salary in the region of £22,000-£23,000 pa is negotiable, depending on age and experience.

Agree with us and supporting letter, describing your suitability for the post, by 7th June, 1985, to: Assistant Director, C.R.E., 4 Robert Place, London SW1W 6RT.

Leicester Family Housing Association Ltd

The Association has 500 tenancies located in the inner city areas of Leicester.

The Housing Manager will be expected to lead a team of six, dealing with applications, lettings and management. Maintenance is the responsibility of a separate department.

Salary on scale £9,360-£11,364 (7 increments).

For further details and an application form please telephone Leicester (0533) 549777.

Closing date 31 May 1985.

L.F.H.A. is an equal opportunities employer.

HOUSING MANAGER

Public Appointments

appear every Wednesday in THE GUARDIAN



CO-ORDINATOR DERBY DRUGLINE

£9,114 — £10,716 pa

Turning Point is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee in the field of drug and alcohol abuse. Recently Turning Point extended its activities to include residential mental health. Founded in 1964 Turning Point currently operates 30 centres throughout the country offering a wide range of services to clients, their families, friends and other professional agencies.

Derby Drugline will be based close to the City Centre and the project will be a volunteer based counselling service for drug users. The project will provide information and advice for the City and neighbouring areas.

The Co-ordinator will be responsible for the day to day running of the project, for recruiting and training volunteer counsellors, will act as a training resource for other agencies in contact with drug users, and will also be responsible for investigations of need for further developments in the field of drug abuse in the Derby area. In addition the Co-ordinator will directly supervise an Outreach Worker who will be appointed at a later date.

The successful candidate must have knowledge of drug misuse and a good understanding of both local and health authority structures. An ability to act on own initiative and forge good liaison links is essential. A social work qualification and ability to drive is preferable.

Please send cv and comprehensive covering letter to:

Moyra Harding, Turning Point, CAP House, 9/12 Long Lane, London EC1A 9HA

by no later than 29 May 1985.

SPARKBROOK ASSOCIATION BIRMINGHAM

CENTRE WARDEN

An energetic and adaptable person required to manage and develop a busy community centre in inner city Birmingham. Qualifications and experience essential.

Salary scale JNC 3 (£7,268 — £8,861). Post funded until 31st March, 1986.

Further details from: The Chairman, SPARKBROOK ASSOCIATION, c/o 34 Cavendish Road, SPARKBROOK, Birmingham, B11 1LJ.

PEAK NATIONAL PARK LOSEHILL HALL

CONSERVATION ASSISTANT

Involves liaison with farmers and teachers and practical conservation activities. Enthusiasm for environmental education and conservation essential.

Applicants must have been unemployed for at least 6 months.

For job description and an application form SAE please to: Peter Townsend, Principal, Peak National Park Study Centre, Losehill Hall, Castleton, Derbyshire, S20 2WL.

YOUTH SERVICES

EXPERIENCED YOUTH WORKER

SOUTHWICK NEIGHBOURHOOD YOUTH PROJECT, SURREYLAND

Salary scale JNC 24 to Scale 6 Point 20 (£7,524 to £9,114)

SNYP is looking for Co-worker with the experience, commitment and creativity to develop youth work in an area that has one of the highest youth unemployment rates in the country.

The work of this independently managed project is diverse. It includes close co-operation with other projects and agencies, including work on group work, short-term projects and development work.

Further details from: T. Hazebroek, 43 Shadwell Road, Jeddah, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.

Closing date June 21, 1985

GENERAL

KIDDERMINSTER AND DISTRICT HEALTH AUTHORITY

HEALTH EDUCATION OFFICER

Required to join an expanding department to take part in the development of health education curriculum development with schools.

The Diploma in Health Education would be an advantage but will be given to candidates with commensurate training and experience.

At mobility is essential to the job, a valid driving licence is necessary.

Application forms and further information from: The District Health Authority, Health Education Officer, Kidderminster, MU 10 1JH. Telephone: 0582 2211. Extension 2211.

Closing date for receipt of applications: May 31, 1985.

PENSIONERS LINK GREENWICH

OUTREACH GROUPS WORKER

To work with Pensioners Groups with Afro-Caribbean Communities in the Greenwich area. Salary £8,161 p.a., 35-hour week, 9.30am to 5.30pm.

Applications are welcome from people of all cultures, ages, ethnic origin and disability. To Old Town Hall, Polytechnic Street, SE18 6PQ. Tel: 01-854 2635.

Islington and Shoreditch Housing Association

Part-Time Assistant

(Circs £3,000 p.a.)

This local housing association requires a mature part-time Assistant to work two full days a week, 10am to 4pm, on a permanent basis. The post involves a mixture of clerical and administrative duties, with a view to expanding the association's services.

Letters of application, with full cv and two references as soon as possible, to: Mr P. O'Rourke, Residential Manager, Islington and Shoreditch Housing Association, 9 St Mary's Path, Islington N1 2RU.

For further details, please contact: Mr P. O'Rourke, Tel: 01-435 1211.

HELP US TO I.T. OFFICER — 3 POSTS

(£7,746-£10,107)

STIRLING AND ALLOA

HELP A CHILD

• The innovative project has been established by Aberfour Child Care Trust and Quinry's Homes in co-operation with Central Region social V.

• The project will provide an intensive small group programme alternative to residential care for more seriously troubled children and establish a network of support for other young people.

• Applicants should have relevant experience, preferably a social work qualification and have a desire to contribute to the development of new initiatives within a stimulating working environment.

• Prospective candidates should write in the first instance to the Director, Aberfour Child Care Trust, 26 Park Terrace, Stirling FK9 2AR. Informal enquiries to John Pease or Les Deaton on 07585521. Closing date for applications: 7th June 1985.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Team Leader

£11,964-£12,810 p.a. (incl.) + essential user car allowance

You will lead a team of Social Workers (Health) covering the Gospel Oak area assessing and responding to local community needs by providing an effective, ethnic sensitive social service and ensuring that statutory obligations are met and policy decisions are carried out.

You will be involved with staff supervision and management, participate fully in the area management team; stipulate and respond to team interest in community projects; monitor and maintain good levels of social work and social services delivery, and act as Duty Senior on a regular basis.

You must have C.Q.S.W. and a minimum of 3 years' experience.

Informal enquiries to Simon Thelermont, Area Group Head, or Rosemary Dinnage, on 01-287 4433.

Application form from and to be returned to: Director of Social Services, Willing House, 356/364 Gray's Inn Road, WC1X 8BH, or telephone 01-337 5521 (Ansafone) quoting ref no 10/201/G. Closing date: 3rd June, 1985.

equal opportunity employer

Applicants are considered on the basis of their suitability for the post, with equal opportunities for women, ethnic minorities, disabled and gay men and people with disabilities, and regardless of marital status, age, creed/religion and unrelated criminal conviction. All posts are open for job-sharing.

THE LEONARD CHESHIRE FOUNDATION

"WITHIN REACH"

Community home for MENTALLY HANDICAPPED ADULTS in BROMLEY, requires the following staff as soon as possible, due to promotion.

A) RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY WORKER (non-resident)

Female to complete the balance of the present team. Scale 4/5 £7,524-£8,820 plus L.W. £587.

B) COMMUNITY ASSISTANT (non-resident)

With less responsibility than A. Scale 3 £5,565 plus L.W. £587.

Applicants will be expected to lead one of three teams of three workers in a small community of ten adults with a wide range of mental handicap. The posts involve sleeping in on rota, some experience and supervision of group work desirable.

C) VOLUNTEER WORKER (resident)

To complete one team.

All applicants must have a good understanding of mentally handicapped people, their needs and their families. The ability to work co-operatively and introduce practical skills e.g., gardening, essential.

Application forms from: The Chairman, 42 Kent Road, WEST WICKHAM, KENT BR4 0PJ.

Closing date: Friday, May 31st, 1985.

Social Services Department Wyre Forest Area (Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley)

New Neighbourhood Project

We have been successful in an Urban Aid Application and are now looking for a

Community Worker

Level III

The project is to set up and develop a neighbourhood based community work initiative within the Oldington and Foley Park Districts of Kidderminster. The post is for five years and the worker will have strong links with, and supervision and support from, other workers, but will need to have much of the responsibility and imagination necessary to get this new project off the ground.

The timing of this project is in line with new developments in the area toward more community oriented services.

If you are interested please contact Mary Wraith or Teresa O'Neill, Kidderminster 05821, ext. 280 and 246.

Closing date: 30th May, 1985.

GENERAL

LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Following a number of proposals, applications are invited for the following positions. The successful candidates will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the services concerned with the application of new technology.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES OFFICER

(REF. P.40)

S01 - £10,725-£11,353

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

Experience of conducting enquiries as an individual Project Officer is necessary, as is the ability to communicate verbally with staff and management and assist in the preparation of reports to Committees and Senior Management.

Experience in two of the following - O.A. 31 Work Study, Job Evaluation - would be an advantage. Successful candidates will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the services concerned with the application of new technology.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES ASSISTANT/ASSISTANT MANAGEMENT SERVICES OFFICER

(REF. P.41)

SC 21 - £6,466-£7,083 (2 Posts)

Candidates must have the ability to summarise data, and produce statistical information, together with the ability to prepare, verbally and in writing, reports. Experience in Management Services is desirable although applicants are welcome from other backgrounds. Experience as there will be no opportunity for training in Management Services.

ONE of these posts is for a temporary period until mid-October 1985 to provide cover for the present incumbent who is taking up a new post. Interested applicants should apply by reference P.41.

MANAGEMENT CONTROLS ASSISTANT

(REF. P.42)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

This post involves the calculation of the targets and analysis of the value of work carried out by building operators. Applicants should have one year's administrative experience, together with an O.A. or B.T.C. National (i.e. in Business Studies, Public Administration etc.) or 5 years' experience in a similar position. Successful candidates will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the services concerned with the application of new technology.

(REF. P.43)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.44)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.45)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.46)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.47)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.48)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.49)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.50)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.51)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.52)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.53)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.54)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.55)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.56)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.57)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.58)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.59)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.60)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.61)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.62)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.63)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.64)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.65)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.66)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.67)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.68)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.69)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.70)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.71)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.72)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

(REF. P.73)

SC 4 - £7,500-£8,377

Applicants must have a DMS, or equivalent, and 1 year's post-qualification experience or at least 3 years' experience in Management Services.

SOUTHWARK ENVIRONMENT TRUST

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

Salary: £10,725

Fixed-Term Appointment

This charitable organisation exists to undertake environmental activities in the London Borough of Southwark and to encourage all who live in the Borough to take an active part in achieving environmental improvements.

The appointment, which is for two years in the first instance, will enable the Trust to promote its own activities and give practical support to other organisations, groups and individuals. Close liaison with the local authority and other public and voluntary bodies will be involved.

The Co-ordinator's responsibilities will include: promoting the Trust's own projects; assisting local groups to formulate plans for projects; encouraging education in urban studies; acting as a focus for information and advice on sources of material or financial assistance and undertaking the Trust's general administration in association with the Trustees.

Experience of work on environmental developments and of liaison with local community groups is desirable and a relevant qualification would be an advantage.

For further details and an application form, please write to: The Secretary (attention Mrs Brackley), Southwark Environment Trust, c/o Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB or telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150. If you wish for an informal discussion of the post, please telephone the chairman, Mr R. Clarke, on 01-833 3319, or the Vice-Chairman, Mr J. Bennett on 01-743 1272 during office hours.

The salary, which is on National Joint Council Scale, point 31, is inclusive of £1,248 London Weighting.

Applications will be welcomed from suitable candidates, regardless of age, sex, marital status, ethnic origin or disability and from applicants with previous employment.

Applications should be returned to the Secretary by May 31, 1985.

THE SUFFOLK COLLEGE

of Higher and Further Education

Required for September 1, or as soon as possible thereafter.

LECTURER GRADE 2 in SOCIAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

Applicants must be graduates in Social Policy and preferably hold a professional qualification of relevance in a Department providing courses in Education, Nursing, Social Work and Management.

Salary Scale: £7,548-£12,089

Further details and application form can be obtained from the Principal, Suffolk College, Rope Walk, Ipswich, to whom completed forms should be returned within ten days of this advertisement. Please send large size and quote post number 425.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

Babergh District Council

ECONOMICS PROMOTION ASSISTANT

Scale 4: £5,855-£7,239 per annum

Babergh District Council is pursuing a range of initiatives to encourage and promote the local economy and now wishes to appoint, initially for twelve months, someone with drive and energy to assist the Economic Promotion Officer.

This is a challenging post which is likely to be particularly attractive to an ambitious young graduate wishing to pursue economic development in a local authority as a career.

Further information and application form are available from:

The Personnel Services Officer
Babergh District Council
Civic Lane
Hadleigh, Ipswich
Suffolk IP7 6SJ

Telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 0473 822261, extension 118.

PROJECT ORGANISER

Salary: Unqualified £4,800-£5,533 pa

Qualified: £5,533-£6,103 pa

An enthusiastic and creative person with a proven track record in project organisation and management. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the project and for the coordination of all project activities.

Previous experience of working in a community setting, a knowledge of social work, a willingness to work with a team, and a commitment to the project are essential.

Experience of working on environmental developments and of liaison with local community groups is desirable and a relevant qualification would be an advantage.

For further details and an application form, please write to: The Secretary (attention Mrs Brackley), Southwark Environment Trust, c/o Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB or telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150. If you wish for an informal discussion of the post, please telephone the chairman, Mr R. Clarke, on 01-833 3319, or the Vice-Chairman, Mr J. Bennett on 01-743 1272 during office hours.

The salary, which is on National Joint Council Scale, point 31, is inclusive of £1,248 London Weighting.

Applications will be welcomed from suitable candidates, regardless of age, sex, marital status, ethnic origin or disability and from applicants with previous employment.

Applications should be returned to the Secretary by May 31, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone 01-733 6311 ext. 2150.

Closing date: June 3, 1985.

For application form and further information telephone

DIARY

CELIA Stubbs, girlfriend of the late Sir Peter, yesterday won a significant battle in her lonely six-year battle to indict the Metropolitan Police for killing Mr Peach when a High Court judge ordered the police to hand over to her the secret report on the affair drawn up by Commander Cass.

The report contains 200 witness statements, runs to more than 30,000 words and is said to name individual officers as being partly responsible for Mr Peach's death. Ms Stubbs's victory was immediately challenged by the police, who have leave to appeal. But she says brightly: "For the first time in six years the police are on the defensive. We've never been so close before."

LOCAL social security offices are all receiving letters informing them of the forthcoming exciting video presentation in which Mr Norman Fowler will present his exciting new SS proposals. The letters come from Ms Alice Perkins and Mrs Jack Strain, wife of the Shadow Environment Spokesman.

THE DHSS is trying out its new regulations for board and lodging payments for people in lodging houses, hostels and private homes. The draft forms ask claimants to agree to their categories—e.g. (4) People who are terminally ill. A number of local DHSS managers feel that, in all the circumstances, this should be more tactfully worded and have refused to use them. The Policy Unit is currently working on a re-wording.

MIR KEN Russell's career as film director has had its more glorious moments. His next project, announced breathlessly in Cannes, is to collaborate with the old porno maestro himself, Mr Bob Guccione, on a film of Daniel Boone's (sic) Wild Frontier. Bob is executive producer. Producer is Mr Harry Alan Towers, another man with something of a chequered film record behind him.

WEATHER permitting, a British flag should be flying on Rockall this weekend. This will upset Iceland, Denmark and Ireland, all of whom claim to own the little island 350 miles west of the Outer Hebrides.

The flag will be placed there by Mr Tom McClean, 41, who has three times crossed the Atlantic single-handed and who is now planning to row out there and stay for a month. His trip is sponsored by Milbury Homes, a south England firm of builders, but will not build a Milbury home on Rockall. He rightly says it would be a bit of a joke. He plans instead to build a "survival shelter"—a strong box lashed to the rock, for which he has successfully obtained permission from Comhairle Nan Eilean, the local authority for the Western Isles. "People have been telling me for 30 years that I am mad," sighed the former SAS man as he set off.

MORE Sikh rumblings over here. The London correspondents of the Hindustan Times both received calls yesterday from the "Sikh Liberation Front"—a hitlerian unknown body—warning them that they would be firebombed if they continued to write critical stories about the Khalistan movement. "I don't want to take it seriously," said one of the reporters Mr R. Paul, "but I suppose that, in the current atmosphere, one should."

THE distinguished congregation at the recent National Scout Service in St George's Chapel, Windsor, will have noticed two enormous felt-tip smudges in the printed order of service. Since a light bulb through it and they have seen the words "The papers say: Robert Maxwell has millions" newly added during the middle of a litany contrasting Christ's sayings with current events. The service was composed by three scouts. The Maxwell veto is thought to have come from the Chief Scout himself, Major-General Michael Walsh.

AN exciting development for shopping malls throughout the US—America's first shopping mall marriage. Harriett Townshill, 19, an electronics technician and 17-year-old Dec Stevenson, a waitress, have been selected from 46 applicants nationwide to tie the knot in their local shopping mall. Mr Ed Smith, small retail manager at Amsonia, Connecticut, who thereby wins a national "Marketing Genius" award, y'd first announced a lucky couple on Valentine's Day. But they broke up. Great idea. Ed. How are you going to top it? "Maybe a divorce sale," quips the marketing genius.

Alan Rusbridger



Not so much a monolith Mr Gorbachev looks to Geneva where others would turn away. Russian soldiers, pictured by Denis Thorpe

Why the Kremlin is facing both ways

COMMENTARY

Martin Walker

IT HAPPENED to Denis Healey when he was in Moscow for the VE Day celebrations last week. It happened to the French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas when he was in Moscow the weekend that Chernenko died. It happened to the German Foreign Minister before him, just as it happens to Ambassadors, to Moscow-based correspondents, and to anyone else who has to live through the slow, frustrating minutiae of great power relations.

"We want to be frank about this," the Russian says. We have a problem. We just don't know who to listen to in Washington. We don't know where the power is. Do we listen to Caspar Weinberger and Richard Perle when they say America is determined to have strategic superiority? Or do we listen to George Shultz and the reasonable men?

"What do you think," the Russian presses on. "Is there such a thing as a single, coherent policy in Washington? And if there isn't—there is a serious point in our trying to negotiate."

But now, they are unsure

that they backed the right horse. The Institute for North American studies run by Georgi Arbatov has noted that Reagan has started to lose some key Congressional votes, that he could not win funding for the Nicaraguan Contras and that he had to accept the cutting down of his defence budget. The first, hesitant quacks of a lame-duck Presidency are carrying from the White House all the way to Moscow.

But the Russians feel that they cannot just sit back and wait out the two years or so before the next Presidential election campaign starts all over again. Until the stars wars row began, they might have been prepared to wait, to negotiate a missile deployment here and there, to keep occupying the chairs at Geneva and Vienna and Stockholm. But two more years of star wars research, with 26 billion dollars of federal funds spurring it on, might just produce a fundamental shift in the balance of power. Moscow can no longer afford to play the waiting game.

This mood of urgency is having some curious effects in the Soviet Union, which likes to present itself as a sane and rational superpower which has a single state policy achieved by consensus and enforced by the absolute authority of democratic centralism. A policy, moreover, which is unfurled by such ripples as the replacement of the series of elderly invalids in the Kremlin with a thrusting new man.

When Andrei Gromyko nominated Gorbachev for the General Secretariat of the Central Committee—plenum in March, he stressed the continuity of party policy, and in his acceptance speech, Gorbachev vowed that "the strategic line worked out at

the 26th Party Congress remains unchanged."

That continuity is now showing signs of strain. On April 23, at the most recent plenum, Mikhail Gorbachev just about wrote off the Geneva talks as a failure. "Washington's general refusal to discuss the limitation of the arms race in space... violates the agreements reached in January," he said.

But then last week, in a statement to French war veterans, he said that he still placed great hope in the Geneva talks. And in his VE Day speech at the Kremlin, he went on further, talking in vague and almost roseate terms of "something much greater than détente—a reliable and all-embracing international security system."

Just as the Kremlin's America-watchers suspect that each twist and contradictory turn in the Reagan administration's statements disguises a Machiavellian cunning, so some western diplomats in Moscow have been reporting back that these are all part of a deep-laid Kremlin ploy to split NATO, and to win in the minds of Western European opinion what the Russians cannot win from the negotiations at Geneva.

Maybe. But it is worth considering the complexity of the Kremlin's system of foreign policy formation and wondering whether it is as monolithic as it looks. The first point to note here is

that Gorbachev looks to be taking much more of a personal interest in foreign policy than any Soviet leader since Brezhnev. And he is interested in foreign policy generally, not just in the great East-West issues which tempted the personal interventions of Yuri Andropov and Konstantin Chernenko.

This is not to say that the grand old veteran of Soviet diplomacy, Andrei Gromyko, is being eclipsed. Far from it. Any Soviet leader who did not rely on Gromyko would be a fool. But the significant feature of Andrei Gromyko's career is that he has neither experience nor power base in the key body of Soviet power—the Central Committee. And the visible authority that Gromyko wielded during what was in effect the interregnum of Chernenko's time reflected the special circumstances of those brief months.

The classic interpretation of Soviet constitutional practice would say that Gromyko does not make foreign policy; he carries it out. His staff in the Foreign Ministry on Smolensk Square prepare the position papers, read the briefings produced by Georgi Arbatov's America-watchers, sound out diplomatic opinion and put up recommendations.

There are also the personal advisers that successful leaders have gathered around themselves. Then there are the military men



and the disputes between the separate commands of the strategic rocket forces and the Army and Navy, have rocked the Kremlin past. But across town on Staraya Ploshad is the Central Committee building with its own secretariat in the International Department who do much the same thing, but do so knowing that theirs are the recommendations that go up to the Politburo direct and thus make policy. The nearest parallel to this process of the West has known in those early days of the Nixon Presidency when Henry Kissinger was National Security Adviser, and it was he and his staff who made the policy—and his messenger boys out of the professional diplomats at the State Department.

Indeed, the cool self-confidence of the Central Committee staff reminds old Washington hands of the equal assurance of those aides who knew they have the President's ear. What was so striking about the last 16 months in Moscow was the way that the Central Committee's assurance began to blur ever so slightly at the edges.

On occasion, echoes of the

disputes and arguments that go into any policy-making process seep out from the inner circle of Soviet power. Gorbachev's tacking and reaching on the prospects from Geneva are one sign. His vague suggestion of a new multi-national summit at Helsinki this August was another. And so was the almost schizophrenic speech he gave on VE Day, hammering the Americans in one paragraph, and offering something much father-reaching than détente in the next.

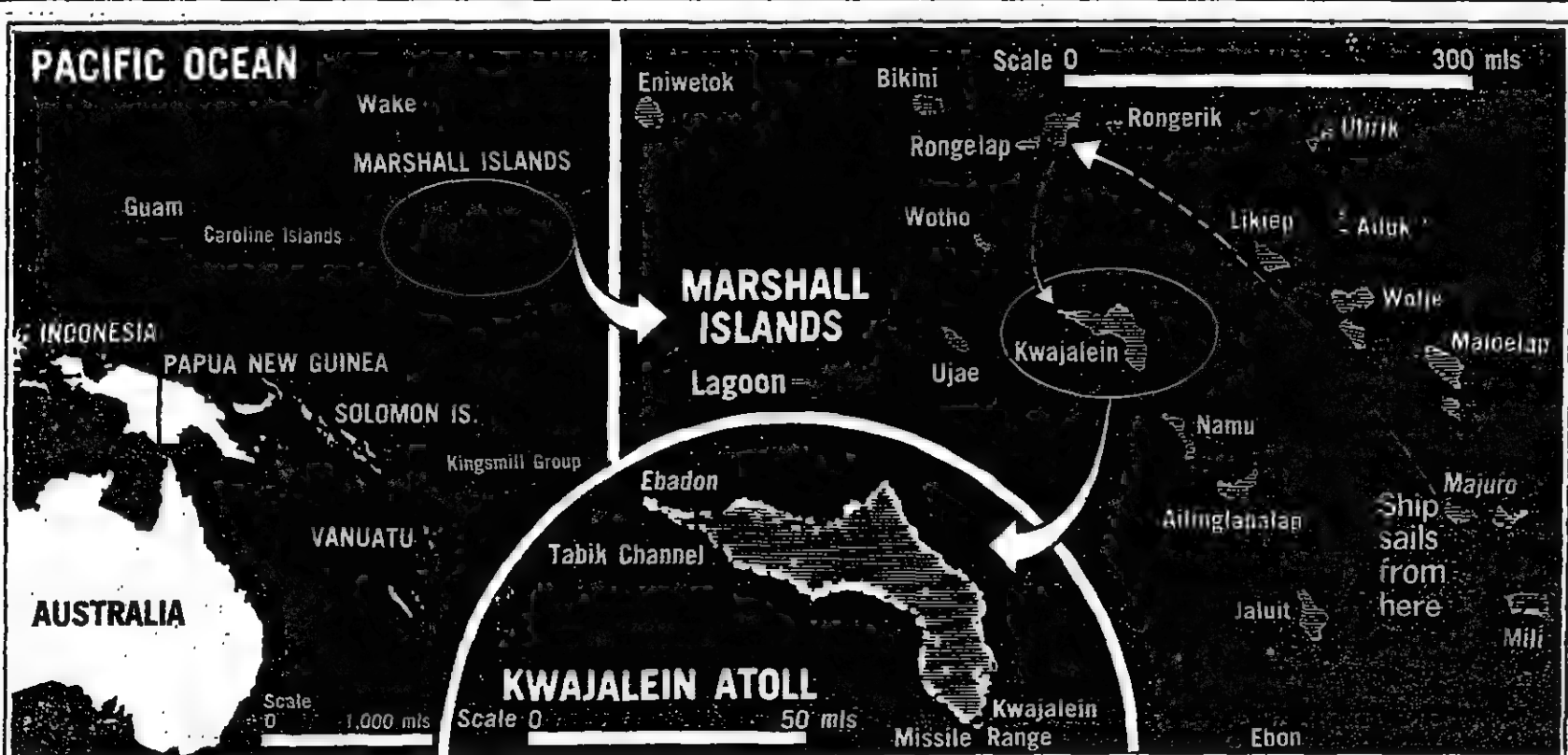
The point is that in any modern state, different groups within the bureaucracy are promoting, and risking their careers on, different lines of policy. There are people in Moscow—and not only military men—who said all along that there was no point in going to Geneva, that the Reagan Administration was in no mood to bring back the golden age of détente. It is in the nature of bureaucracies round the world that those groups are now saying "we told you so"—and recommending that Geneva be stalled, and the Soviet Union launch an all-out drive into its own star wars research, under the age-old principle of getting your retaliation in first.

By contrast, the Geneva group in Moscow is saying that real gains have been achieved. Mitterrand's France has come out against star wars, and even Mrs Thatcher's Foreign Secretary has voiced profound doubts. Most significant of all, they say that the Reagan Administration is under increasing pressure from Congress to trim defence spending.

These arguments over policy will be decided in the Politburo, a grouping which has the great advantage of not needing to tailor its policies to the needs of a general election every four or five

years. But there are constraints on the Politburo. The over-riding concern of Mr Gorbachev, and the issue which brought him to power, is the crying need for domestic economic reform, to get the economy moving again. To achieve this, he will need first to tailor the next Party Congress, the next Central Committee and the regional party organisations to his own tastes and policies. This will take him at least until next spring. He will probably also seek to ensure that any new surge of star wars research and defence spending does not distort the rest of the economy. After all, the Soviet economy began to slow down during the last great wave of defence spending on the new land and sea-based missile system in the 1970s.

Mr Gorbachev is a man under pressure. And the most menacing pressure is that all his plans and hopes for modernising the Soviet economy now look as if they are a hostage to the American plans for star wars. If the US goes ahead, the Soviets will have to follow—whatever price must be paid on domestic front. Gorbachev the reformer will find that unattractive. Mr Gorbachev, the philosopher may shrug and accept that such is the fate of a superpower. But if Mr Gorbachev shrugs, to believe those who suspect that this devaluing of Russia's reform plans is what the Pentagon plotted all along, then he could feel justified in turning very nasty. So it is not just a question of who the Russians should be listening to in Washington, but also a problem of the people. Mr Gorbachev will choose to listen to in Moscow. And superpower politics will depend largely upon this other.



PAUL BROWN reports from Majuro in the Marshall Islands on the Greenpeace exodus

The legacy of a snowstorm in paradise

THIRTY foot of clear water, and you can see the fish. This is Majuro atoll, capital of the Marshall Islands republic, part of the United Nations trust territory of the Pacific Islands—administered by the United States. Much of the territory is used for testing nuclear weapons and missiles.

Majuro atoll is a 32 mile horseshoe-shaped stretch of the islands, barely 300 yards wide and only three feet above sea level. They are linked by a single road that bridges the gap between them. More than half the population of 12,000 is under 16, and everywhere there are children playing in the lagoon or in juddles left by the frequent downpours of tropical rain. The adults are more languid. Only seven degrees north of the Equator, with a temperature that never seems to drop below 70 even at night, humidity is at 98 per cent and strenuous exercise is difficult.

Yet despite the appearance of a kind of paradise, 30 per cent of the adults on the atoll are unemployed, and there is even some malnutrition. And outside the post office is a small notice which gives another and more serious side to the picture postcard view of a Pacific island

— and explains why Greenpeace and Rainbow Warrior are taking such a keen interest in developments in the area.

The notice tells people to "listen" to their bodies—and goes on to list the signs of cancer. For the islanders on the atoll of Rongelap, a couple of hundred miles north of here, suffered from the effects of the hydrogen bomb tested on the neighbouring Bikini in 1954—a thousand times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb. Their sufferings have been a subject of concern throughout the Marshall Islands for more than 30 years.

American scientists come twice a year to Rongelap. They don't eat the choice lobsters, the turtles, the giant clams, the coconuts or the breadfruit offered to them by the islanders. They bring their own food. They do not explain this discourtesy. But when Brookhaven Laboratory scientists did eat the food as an experiment in 1966, they found the intake of strontium 90 over a seven day period was 20 times higher than normal, and caesium 137 was 60 times higher.

This kind of anecdotal evidence has led some critics of the United States to sug-

gest that the Americans are using the islanders as guinea pigs to discover the effects of long-term exposure to radiation.

The Americans, who took over from the Japanese at the end of the last war, began by blowing up and contaminating the atolls of Bikini and Eniwetok. They evacuated the islanders to smaller atolls where some of them nearly died of starvation. But at Rongelap they left the people undisturbed when they exploded the hydrogen bomb in 1954. Even though scientists at the meteorological station warned the military that the people living on Rongelap were down wind, the test went ahead. The children—stunned at first by the blinding flash and the shock wave—later played in the "snow," three inches of fallout.

It was three days before they were evacuated, and by that time many of them had radiation burns. Since then 19 out of the 29 children under 10 at the time have developed thyroid nodules. Leko Anjain, barely a year old when contaminated, died as a teenager of leukaemia. Brookhaven scientists allowed the people to return three years after the tests, claiming that the residual

radiation was not harmful. But some of the people who went back to the islands, who had not been there at the time of the tests, have since developed radiation-linked illnesses.

It took a long time for the islanders to react politically. Their own trusting good nature is against them. They do not even have a word for "enemy" in Marshallese. But eventually they called on Jaton Anjain, an educated islander who had trained as the Marshalls' first dentist, to come home and represent them. Appeals for help to the American Congress were ignored and Jaton eventually asked Greenpeace to help to evacuate the Rongelap islanders.

Brookhaven has not published much of its research, and Japanese scientists who tried to carry out research of their own were ejected by the Americans because their visas were not in order. "We don't need scientists," say Jaton, "to see our children are sick. They have heart trouble, deafness, cataracts, and cancer. We never had those before."

"When we decide to leave the atoll, the old people will cry to leave their homeland. But I say, what about your grandchildren? Do you want them to die, just because

they eat fish and coconuts?" The United States is currently trying to put a "compact of free association" for the Marshall Islands through Congress. It is designed to allow some measure of independence for the islands, compensation for damage from nuclear blasts, and the right of the United States to continue to use the Kwajalein atoll—between Majuro and Rongelap—to test missiles. Intercontinental ballistic missiles are fired into the Kwajalein lagoon at 8,000 miles an hour from 3,000 miles away in California.

One controversial aspect of the "compact" is that the Marshallese will give up their right to sue the United States for radiation damage to their health—or to that of future generations. A trust fund will be set up with the new Marshallese government empowered to settle claims using the interest from the trust. "What we are trying to do," says Michael Senko, the US liaison officer on the Marshalls, "is to get a just and equitable limit on our nuclear testing liability." He said that the "compact" would allow the United States to look after the defence interests of the Marshalls—and to continue to use the Kwajalein missile range.

DEREK BROWN reports from Amsterdam on the Pope's cool reception

Missing masses

JOHN PAUL II leaves the Netherlands this morning, having conspicuously failed in his four day mission to unite the church there. In retrospect, it was like wanting to build a railway tunnel in a polder: a heroic but hopeless ambition. But at least the Pope might have hoped the pontifical pomp, like the magic of monarchy, would transcend the deep divisions in Dutch Catholicism. After all, his 25 previous trips in less than seven years had always brought out the faithful or the simply curious in droves, to reflect glory on papal prestige.

What was so shocking here to Vatican sensibilities, was not the violence on the loony fringe, nor even the refusal of dissident Catholics to hold their tongues in the Pope's presence. It was rather the massive indifference of the population at large, especially the 5.5 million nominal Roman Catholics.

The tour started badly at Eindhoven Airport last Saturday when 100,000 were expected to greet the Pope on his first foray to the low countries. Only some 7,000 turned up and so it went on. The worst moment was when the Pope went to Utrecht Cathedral on Sunday, his arrival being witnessed by just 20,000 onlookers.

Interest perked up yesterday when around 50,000 people—approaching half the church's predictions—went to an open air mass outside Maastricht. But then the Pope was, so to speak, playing a home match in staunchly Catholic South Limburg province.

The Vatican Radio said yesterday morning in so many words, that it had, all been got up in the press which had concentrated on violence and danger and so discouraged a high turnout. The fact is that the great majority of Dutch people regarded the visit as at best an irrelevance, and at worst a provocation.

But the most vexed and provoked section was undoubtedly the liberal wing of the Church itself, frustrated almost beyond measure by the Vatican's efforts to roll back the sixties tide of reform. The liberals have no single organisation, nor yet a manifesto. Their causes are many: relaxation of papal strictures on contraception and abortion, a greater role for women in the church, more sympathy for homosexual and divorced Catholics,

and for married priests. (In the past 20 years 2,500 men have resigned Holy Orders; half the total Dutch priesthood.)

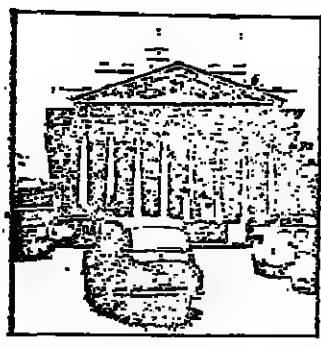
Underpinning all such controversy is a quarrelsome Dutch obsession with debate as a virtue in itself. When the liberals held their own rally last week, attracting 10,000 people, there were shouts bearing the message "Dear God, we want a Pope with big ears." And a host of speeches criticising the Pontiff not for his own views, but for refusing to listen to others.

At least from today he can reasonably expect to see the loyal face of Low Country Catholicism, when he flies to Luxembourg, and on Thursday, to Belgium. Both countries have a solid, conservative tradition. The worst the Pope might face in the former is an expectation that he show off his formidable linguistic skills. In Luxembourg, the local tongue.

The Belgian itinerary has been arranged with scrupulous care so that the Pope spends exactly the same amount of time in Dutch-speaking Flanders as in Francophone Wallonia. This local imperative, means however that he must break with tradition and forego kissing the famous Zavelaem national airport which lies in Flanders. Instead he will be whisked to a central Brussels park, where he can embrace impeccably bilingual soil.



If the American oil companies return to their wells, ours will surely follow



NOTEBOOK

Edited by
Hamish McRae

THE OIL giants are returning to their origins. Hardly a day passes without news of some divestment of non-oil activities by the oil majors — and announcements which tell us something

about the oil companies and even more about the market's perception of them.

At the moment it is mostly an American phenomenon. Yesterday's event was a statement by Texaco that it was planning to sell its non-oil side, valued at \$300-400 million, in the near future. This follows Mobil's retreat from ownership of Montgomery Ward, a slightly down-market US department store chain, which has been a distraction ever since it bought it. It follows Atlantic Richfield's negotiations to sell its West Coast petrol stations to the Southland Corporation, owner of the string of Seven Eleven mini-stores. And it precedes the sell-off confidently expected by the market of Exxon's lacklustre office machine division.

Why? The sell-offs are partly a defensive move against Mr T. Boone Pickens Jr., who makes a living attacking the oil companies, forcing them to pare back to basics, but it would be absurd to blame (or praise) him alone. He is supported by two forces. The first is the poor performance of companies in areas outside oil.

Leave aside the US and look at our own BP, Shell, and yes, Burmah. All three have had miserable experiences in tankers. In the case of Burmah, this would have bust the company at the beginning of 1975 had it not sold its investment in BP to the Bank of England. BP and Shell have had enormous losses on chemicals. BP has managed, at very best, a poor performance on its ventures into mining. Some would put it more harshly.

The second force is investor preference. Institutional investors like the likes of the National Westminster Bank, the City of London, and so on. In part this is just a current whim: they used to like conglomerates, but now only do so when there is a clear record of managerial success, or a

clear industrial logic to them. But it means that any public company has to look to the perception of itself in sectoral terms.

And of course this is why we have had the live-offs that we have already seen in the UK. What we have not seen here is the most extreme version of this phenomenon, where live-offs are used as a prime defence.

But seeing what is happening in the US suggests two propositions for the UK. For some US techniques are likely to spread across the Atlantic. One such practice is described in the next note. The first proposition is that while the size of the UK oil giants for the moment insulates them from the pressures on their sisters in the US, you could see a set of circumstances a couple of years out where they become vulnerable, particularly after the British government's policy of its shareholding in BP.

The second proposition is

that private companies, which do not have to answer to the market, have an ability to take a longer-term view than similar companies with a quote. Put Heron, a private company, together with Burmah, and you start to get something rather exciting. That potential group could, in say three or four years' time, start to make the Seven Sisters of the oil game look still more flabby.

Travelling junk

ANOTHER US market technique may be coming to the UK to rattle the Stock Exchange and speed up the shift from bank finance to raising money through the issue of securities. The big US investment bank, Drexel Burnham Lambert, wants to develop the British equivalent of the American "junk bond" market, which has become notorious in recent months because it has been used to finance some of the big greenmail bids by issuing

high risk, high yield bonds to pay for them.

Bob Lloyd, one of the Drexel executives who will be developing the new market in London, doesn't like the greenmail association and says junk bonds are simply the debt of those 85 per cent of US companies which do not have top flight ratings from American credit rating agencies.

In London, where we do not have credit rating agencies, he says the equivalent would be companies of £100 million net worth and perhaps up to £500 million turnover which largely avoid the still sleepy corporate bond market.

This remains more the province of blue chip firms which would expect to pay a fairly small premium over the rate the government gets when it sells gilts. Junk bonds would yield a lot more, to compensate for the slightly higher risk of default, perhaps somewhere nearer the rate that a clear-

ing bank would charge for an ordinary loan than the rate a blue chip would pay for a debenture.

Drexel chairman Mr Bob Linton said from New York: "We are talking about a possibility in the future of companies and creating a sterling bond market which doesn't exist any more, except for gilts and a few investment grade companies. The Bank of England would like to see a corporate debt market return. As a first step Drexel wants to get middle range UK companies to issue dollar debt in the US junk bond market."

If a sterling market follows, it would be exactly the sort of development which would encourage banks to move even faster into the securities market. This is where their customers are going. Drexel is the junk bond leader in the US, so the idea has to be taken seriously as one more way in which the securities markets are moving away from the main

stream of the Stock Exchange.

Two way signals

A FAIR amount of silliness is about at the moment over the excessive growth of UK money supply. In particular the linking of the present (admittedly nasty) surge in sterling with the forthcoming retail price figures on Friday.

In fact the bad RPI figure will be a function of that plunge in sterling a couple of months back, now reversed, and the subsequent rise in mortgage rates. The RPI is a leading indicator and should be treated as such. As for money supply, the relative strength of sterling is a helpful cross check on the other figures if the pound had been weak, we really should be worrying; as it is, one set of signals is pointing the right way, even if the other is pointing the wrong.

Run on second savings and loans bank leads to crisis of confidence

Maryland governor calls for federal help

From Alex Brummer in Washington

The Governor of Maryland, Mr Harry Hughes, yesterday called for federal help to stem the crisis of confidence spreading through the state's 102 state insured savings and loans associations. The move followed the development of a run on a second Maryland bank, Merritt Commercial Savings, which was the victim of a recent collapse in the government securities market.

The dramatic events in Maryland, following hard on the heels of the Ohio banking crisis, have provoked concern that there may be similar problems in other states with their own savings insurance scheme. However, state insured banks in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and North Carolina — with billions of dollars of deposits among them — were reportedly calm yesterday.

This latest crisis, coupled with talk of a reduction of US interest rates, left the dollar

nearly two cents down against the pound, which closed at \$1.2727.

Officials at the Federal Home Loan Board yesterday described the situation in Maryland as "Very serious." The board has agreed to speed applications by those institutions which want to move under the protection of the federal umbrella. In the meantime the Federal Reserve has reportedly made some \$80 million available to Old Court, the first of the Maryland institutions in trouble. It has also confirmed that its discount window is open.

This effectively means that the federal authorities worried about a spread of the Maryland problem to the wider banking system and financial markets will allow troubled savings and loans, which perform broadly the same functions as Britain's building societies, to receive emergency loans from the Federal Reserve.

Similarly, the Federal Home Loan Board is sending in its own bank examiners to aid the Maryland officials currently going through the books of the state's savings and loans, judging from initial findings at Old Court, the first of the firms to experience a run, the depositors were justified in having some concern.

According to court papers the owners of Old Court, Messrs Jeffrey Levitt and Alan Pearlstein, allegedly were responsible for a series of abuses at the institution including making large loans to themselves. Initial reports suggest that they had received around 20 unsecured loans from the bank worth some \$5.5 million. Furthermore, Mr Levitt paid himself around \$2 million last year, the sort of sum which a top executive at Citibank or Chase Manhattan might envy.

The second Maryland institution to find itself in difficulty is Merritt Commercial Sav-

ings and Loan which is currently building itself a new \$38 billion headquarters in the centre of Baltimore. Merritt experienced a run on deposits after disclosure of its links to Bevil, Bresler Schulman Asset Management, the government securities broker which ran into trouble last month. The savings and loan apparently had some \$2.5 million or 15 per cent of its assets locked up in the broker.

Under its recent management Old Court grew from a minor institution with \$143 million assets into a major force in Maryland, with assets of \$575 million over a period of less than three years. This was accomplished by switching from its traditional mortgage business to property and commercial lending in a manner reminiscent of Britain's secondary banking crisis of the 1970s.

With the continuing weakness in the American banking system and the disclosure that

the Federal Reserve is keeping its doors open to emergency borrowers the belief on the financial markets yesterday was that US interest rates will be under pressure to drop. This, together with hopes that a budget will soon be cut, may have been among the factors behind the dollar's general weakness.

The dollar received little help from the rise in US retail sales which were much lower than expected and it ended lower against most currencies in nervous trading, including a fall of 2.65 pfennigs against the German mark.

Sterling managed to rise against Continental currencies as well as the dollar, so the average value on the Bank of England's sterling index rose 0.4 to 72.2 per cent of its 1975 value. Bad money supply figures last week continued to prevent a fall in sterling interest rates despite the strength of the pound.

Names face Lloyd's rebuff

By Mary Brasler

LYDD'S is likely to give a thumbs down to attempts to find an interim solution to the \$62 million crisis facing "names" on the PCW syndicates.

A scheme whereby names could pay just \$7 or \$8 million of the total bill now to settle claims is believed to have been dismissed by the market authorities as unacceptable.

The proposal was put forward by Mr Graham White, managing director of the Richard Beckett Underwriting Agency (RBUA), which now manages the names' affairs at a meeting with Lloyd's yesterday.

But Lloyd's chief executive, Mr Ian Davison, who was not at the meeting, appeared to reject the initiative. He said that Lloyd's names had to show they could pay the estimated bill for all future losses, not merely claims which had been reported.

"The question is what is the value now of all the risks they have to pay. Names have got to be good for a future stream of debts," he said. "They must show they are good today for the present value of future obligations."

The \$62 million that RBUA has asked names to pay is calculated from the agency's estimate of likely claims from business written in 1982, even though the claims may take as long as 20 years to materialise.

Names who do not pay losses by the end of June will fall Lloyd's solvency deadline a month later and will be suspended from underwriting. Lloyd's can then meet claims from a combination of names' deposits lodged with them and withdrawals from the \$167 million central fund.

The campaign, by a core of PCW names, to make the syndicates managers and the ultimate owners Minet Holdings hear some responsibility for the losses continues, backed by a £1 million fight to force the names to announce what their next step will be in a couple of weeks. One name dismissed the efforts of RBUA yesterday by saying they were not taking any money from Lloyd's or a hand-out.

Blueprint for Westland from Bristow

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor

A two-pronged plan to reduce bank borrowings and expand sales at the Westland helicopter maker is being drawn up by Mr Alan Bristow to support his £38 million takeover bid for the struggling company.

Mr Bristow's strategy for the future of the business is expected to be outlined in the formal documents accompanying the offer by his company, Bristow Rotorcraft, which are due to be published in the next few days.

It is likely that Mr Bristow will emphasise the depressing outlook for Westland helicopter sales and how improved management and marketing could help secure the company's long-term future.

A key element of Bristow's blueprint for Westland is expected to be the urgent need to reduce the company's £60 million of bank borrowings, which in the past year absorbed £5.5 million of interest charges.

However, Bristow is not likely to suggest the sale or flotation of Westland's highly profitable helicopter division, as the Normalair-Garrett, as the principal means of repaying debt. Westland's existing board is actively examining ways of floating the business separately to raise around £50 million.

In addition, Bristow is anxious to intensify the sales effort behind Westland's success-



Alan Bristow

ful Sea King and Lynx helicopters and step up the company's marketing of spare parts and after-sales service.

While Mr Bristow is likely to include a highly critical appraisal of Westland's past management, it is expected that he will have to extend invitations to several senior executives within the company if his bid succeeds.

However, the Bristow Rotorcraft offer document to Westland shareholders is not expected to shed much light on the future levels of the firm's helicopter-making work force at Yeovil, Somerset.

In the City, Westland shares were yesterday changing hands at 148p, slightly below the 150p offer from Bristow.

Petroleum in last-minute change of partners

By John Hooper, Energy Correspondent

Petroleum, the small British exploration and production company which has already provided the City with a fair share of drama this year, came up with yet another surprise yesterday when it was announced that it had agreed to a merger with the Irish firm, Aran Energy.

The deal, which values Petroleum at £15.8 million was announced only hours before the closing deadline for a previously agreed bid from Saxon Oil. Saxon had itself stepped in after two bids from Clyde Petroleum. Aran, which will have to raise £18.5 million by way of a rights issue to

finance the purchase said it had received irrevocable undertakings from the holders of more than 50 per cent of Petroleum's shares.

Petroleum shares jumped 5p to 89p, but that is still almost 10p below the valuation which Aran's share offer puts on them. Aran's own shares fell back 4p to 38p.

The Irish firm, which made a small pre-tax profit of £127,000 last year, has a stake in the Kinase Head gas field off the southern coast of Ireland, exploration interests offshore in the Celtic Sea, the North Sea and the Atlantic as well as onshore in Ireland. It also has trading and property interests.

Philips to shut Halifax factory

By Maggie Brown

Philips, the Dutch multinational, yesterday announced the closure of its washing machine and tumble dryer factory in Halifax, with the loss of 550 jobs.

It said the 13-year-old factory was too small to produce economically in today's highly competitive climate, and that the closure would be phased over the next 12 months. Philips would then supply the British market with products made in its Italian and West German plants.

The decision, on the cards for at least a year, comes only six weeks after the eventual rescue from receivership of the West Midlands washing machine maker, Servis. It is a further sign of the immense strains imposed by an esti-

mated 30 per cent overcapacity within Europe's "white goods" industry. Philips is also having to match the economies of scale gained by the pan-European merger of Sweden's Electrolux and Italy's Zanussi, giving it a 25 per cent European market share, compared to Philips estimated 13 per cent.

Philips' decision to close its only UK washing machine works has a strategic significance for Britain. It means that imported washing machines could gain a larger share of the UK market than home produced ones for the first time.

Philips has an estimated 8.5 per cent share of the British washing machine market, running at 1.6 million sales last year, and dominated by

Hotpoint and Hoover. In 1984, 43 per cent were imported, that is now likely to touch 50 per cent.

Mr David Graham, national officer of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, the main union at the plant, said yesterday: "We deplore the decision. We will exert whatever pressure we can to make them change their minds."

Sharp, the Japanese electronics group, is expanding its Wrexham factory to make microwave ovens, bringing 150 extra jobs to the area, rising to 190 during 1988. Sharp began making video recorders at the town earlier this year with a workforce of 630, and plans an output of 100,000 units by the end of this year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Springer placing

FORTY-NINE per cent of the share capital of one of West Germany's most famous publishing groups, Axel Springer Verlag Publishing, is to be placed with private investors.

Deutsche Bank is handling the placing and plans to distribute the shares broadly among retail and corporate customers to avoid the formation of any single ownership block. Axel Springer, founder of the group, and the Burda Verwaltungen Publishing Group, will retain control of the Springer company by keeping a 51 per cent share stake.

RETAIL sales grew by a little over 1 per cent last month to stand close to record levels. But while the volume of trade in the past three months has been 4 per cent higher than a year ago, the level has barely compared with the previous quarter.

PEEK HOLDING'S £26 million bid for Energy Services & Electronics has lapsed, unless a recount shows that Peek has won control after all. Acceptances of the offer totalled 384 million shares (48.99 per cent) and a further 150,000 shares were held by parties acting in concert.

GUINNESS is to invest £5 million in building Europe's most modern beer bottling and canning plant at Castle Reach in Belfast. The new plant will replace an existing Belfast factory.

KUWAITI interests have trimmed their holding in Mr Tiny Rowland's Lloyds group by disposing of one million shares.



Burton rules out bid for Debenhams

By Margaret Pagnano, City Correspondent

More than £30 million was wiped off the market value of Debenhams yesterday when the Burton group ruled out any immediate plans to bid for it at current prices.

Debenhams' chairman, Mr Robert Thornton, recently said that, to be successful, any takeover bid for the retail group, which includes Harvey Nichols, would have to be of at least £500 million.

● Ralph Halpern

In response to persistent market rumours, Burton's chairman, Mr Ralph Halpern, confirmed that he had looked at Debenhams, and a number of other businesses, but he said: "I can say with emphasis that Burton would not under present circumstances be a bidder for Debenhams at the sort of prices attributed to it."

Indeed, we are not convinced that Debenhams is worth its present market value of around £450 million. Debenhams' shares, which had been pushed to new peaks by dealers convinced of a take-

over, immediately plunged back 28p to 300p, valuing the group at about £420 million. By the close they had recovered to 307p.

Mr Thornton revealed earlier this week that Debenhams had hatched a plan for a possible management buyout should a takeover bid eventually emerge for the group.

The Government yesterday gave the go-ahead for Britain's largest retail merger between Associated Dairies, the Asda stores chain, and MFI, the furniture group.

IBM extends aid to five more UK universities

By Peter Large

IBM is extending its £3 million programme of aid for computer education in Britain to five more universities.

Imperial College, London, was the second IBM Institute project to be launched. Now Bath, Birmingham, Exeter, Heriot-Watt, and Strathclyde Universities are being linked to Imperial College, increasing the number of undergraduates involved from 350 to more than 1,100. The equipment IBM is giving will be used in

the teaching of process-control engineering.

Most big computer firms offer cut-price equipment to universities and schools, because the students who benefit become orientated to that company's equipment and methods. But IBM's scheme, announced a year ago, also offers wide support for university courses, including the secondment of IBM staff.

The opening project by this IBM Institute was to establish a computer-aided engineering centre at Cambridge University

Farmers 'are confused by government silence'

By Rosemary Collins, Agriculture Correspondent

Farmers are confused about the role they are expected to play in the British and European economy, the chief executive of Velocut, Britain's biggest farm management company, claimed yesterday.

"The present Government, with its often stated dedication to promote and reward success, appears to some parts of the farming industry to be mysteriously silent and unresponsive to the success of agriculture," Mr Robin Mallin said. "At the

very least the industry deserves to know what its future role should be."

Mr Mallin pointed out that in real terms, after excluding the effect of inflation, the annual cost to the Exchequer of supporting British agriculture dropped between 1969 and 1982 from £1.5 billion to £720 million.

Successive governments since 1947 had subsidised a restructuring of the farm industry so that the unit cost of agricultural production was lower today than ever before.

Insolvency bill attacked

By Rosemary Collins

A series of amendments to strengthen the insolvency bill, which began its committee stage in the Commons yesterday, has been circulated by MPs by the Consumers' Association.

The bill's definition of a "director" should be extended to include all those involved in managing a company whether formally named as directors or not. Directors who have been involved in two or more insolvent companies within a five-year period should be disqualified. As the bill stands, a director might be disqualified if he was proved "unfit" or if his company was found guilty of "wrongful trading."

The association would also like to see the definition of "wrongful trading" strengthened in line with the Cork recommendations. The present wording of the bill "may make it virtually impossible to prove wrongful trading in all but the most extreme circumstances," the association believes.

It would also like to see the bill amended to make it obligatory for all a company's creditors to be kept informed about the state of a liquidated company's assets and liabilities during winding-up.

The Consumers' Association, which has campaigned for 20 years for company reform, welcomes the present attempt at legislation but believes that without amendment it will not be fully effective.

John Hooper finds that excessive secrecy is hampering the work of CoCom

The West's ex-directory trade sentinel is so shy

THE RUE Boissy d'Anglas is a narrow street which runs off Paris's grandiose boulevards. Dior and Lanvin have their boutiques at its lower end close to the square and the Hotel Crillon. Further up, beyond the Rue Faubourg de St Honore, it dissolves into the usual Parisian hotch-potch of patisseries, charcuteries and salons, stylish grey buildings.

Somewhere along its length — though no one will say where — the Rue Boissy d'Anglas also houses one of the world's most secretive international organisations.

The Co-ordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls — CoCom for short — has the task of agreeing which high technology products cannot be sold by the "West" to the "East".

It consists of representatives from Japan and all the Nato countries except Spain and Iceland. The chairman is always an Italian. The members of the committee who, for the most part, are diplomats attached to their countries' OECD delegations, are backed up by technical experts and officials from the bodies responsible for preventing illicit exports. Customs and Excise services and, presumably, police forces and intelligence agencies as well. These officials have their own subsidiary enforcement committee. CoCom began work in 1950 and is effectively in constant session. Yet officials whose duties bring them within its orbit take a perverse glee in insisting that it does not exist. In one sense they are right — no treaty has ever been drawn up to give the committee a legal status.

Not only that but, as I found out after several days of fruitless telephoning, neither the members of the committee itself, nor the officials who staff its dozen-strong secretariat are prepared to be interviewed. CoCom is not listed in the Paris telephone directory and, although it is known to be housed in an annex of the US Embassy, none of the buildings in the Rue Boissy d'Anglas flies the US flag.

All this is distinctly odd in view of the fact that CoCom's activities are freely referred to by the governments of the countries which belong to it. What is more,

the secrecy surrounding it renders the organisation effectively defenceless, and right now CoCom is approaching a period in which it could do with all the help and understanding it can get. CoCom's main task is to draw up lists of embargoed goods. The items on these lists, which are secret, are then incorporated into the registers which all Western governments keep — and publish — to let the business community know what they can and cannot sell to which countries. Two of the lists cover exclusively military items. But for industry, the most interesting — and controversial — is the third, which covers "dual use" products felt to be suitable for both civilian and military purposes.

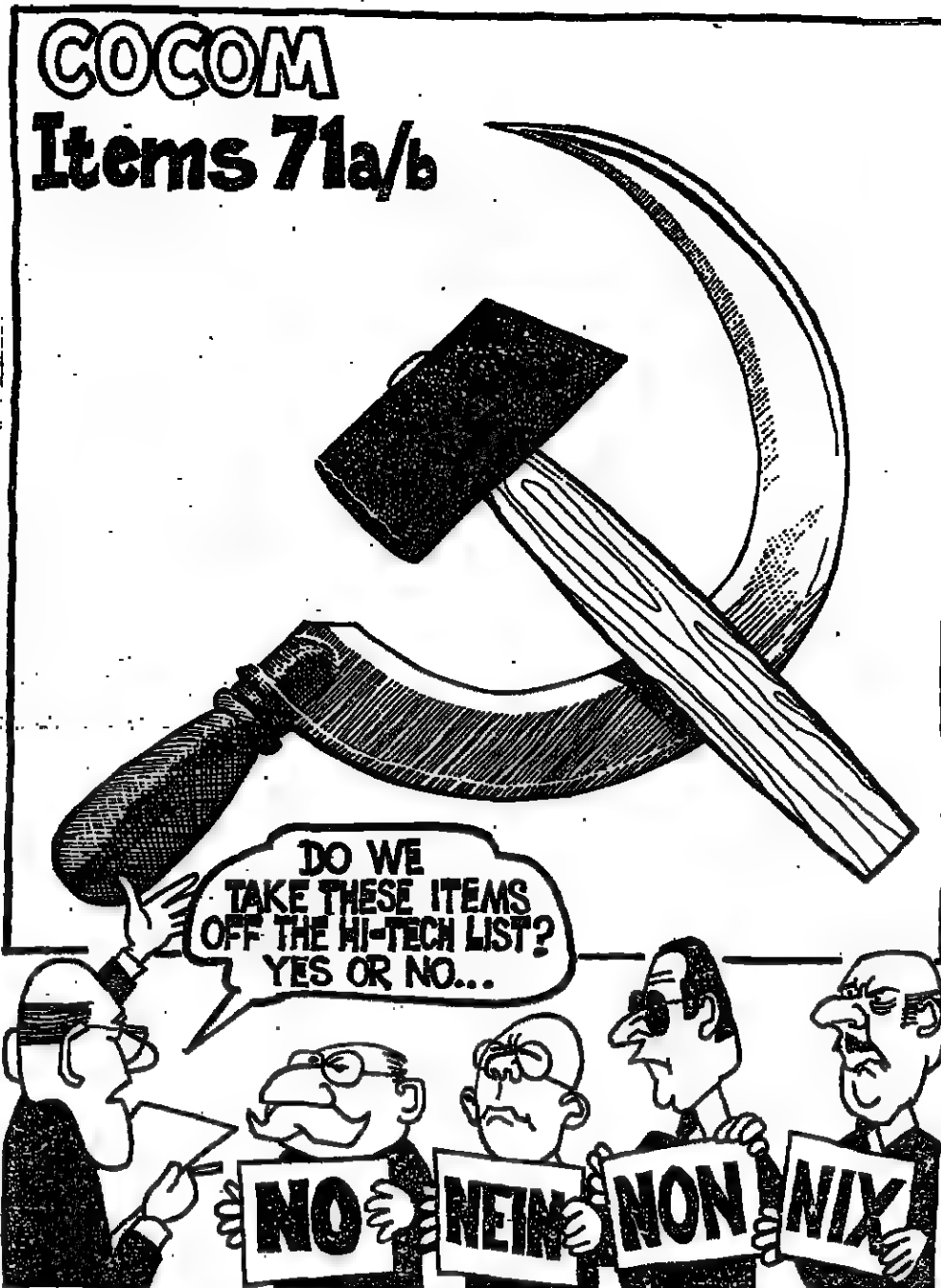
The latest such "dual use" list was completed last July, but is only now coming into effect by way of the various national registers. America's was updated last December and the new entries took effect at the end of April. Britain's will be modified by means of an Export of Goods Order which, the Trade Minister, Mr Paul Channon told Parliament last month, will be published "on or about June 12" and take effect six weeks later.

The most striking aspect of CoCom's latest agreement is that, for the first time, it covers software as well as hardware. This considerably enlarges the number of businesses liable to have their exports curbed by government edict and is likely to boost the volume of the moans and grumbles which usually accompany the entry into force of CoCom's "dual-use" lists.

It also begs the question of whether CoCom — or any other body for that matter — is capable of enforcing a ban on something so intangible as it can be fed down a telephone line.

Discontent with the way the CoCom goes about its business has been simmering for some time. At the end of last year, Mr Thomas Raftery, an Irish MEP, produced an opinion on high technology restrictions for the European Parliament's Committee on External Economic Relations which was highly critical of CoCom.

He pointed out that a



number of non-communist countries with advanced technology industries such as Taiwan, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden and Austria did not belong to it.

Whether it was as a result of Mr Raftery's paper is impossible to say, but the months since its publication have seen what appears to be a determined attempt to meet these criticisms. Both Singapore and Spain have signalled their intention of preventing the export of goods on the CoCom list and according to sources close to CoCom, the Committee has agreed to abandon the old procedure of working from the top to the bottom of the "dual-use" list over a three-year period.

Instead, the sources say, the list has been split up into sections, each of which will be subject to revision on a shorter timetable. Neither of these moves would however get rid of the political objections to

CoCom. Apart from drawing up lists of embargoed products, the committee spends its time considering applications for exemption from individual manufacturers on grounds such as that the item in question has become available to the Soviet bloc through a non-CoCom state, that it can now be produced by the communists or that it can only be put to civilian use.

A study published last year by the International Institute for Strategic Studies estimated that between 3 and 5 per cent of all Western exports to the Soviet bloc were in the form of permitted sales of CoCom-embargoed goods. But before such sales are allowed to go ahead, they must have the approval of all the members of the committee. Any one nation's representative can impose a veto and it is in this area that the United States appears to wield an overbearing influence.

Of the 31 requests for exemption vetoed by the committee in 1977, 30 were thrown out at the behest of the US representative.

This strongly suggests that some decisions are taken on diplomatic rather than military criteria. Indeed, the US has made it quite clear that the US representative's readiness to use his veto increases at times of East-West tension.

There is a growing feeling on this side of the Atlantic that a more suitable alternative arrangement would be to create two committees, one American and one European, which could then co-ordinate their activities.

This would have the advantage of allowing the Americans to pursue an anti-Soviet line, if they chose to, without prejudicing European trade. Political sources said yesterday that the idea is now under active consideration by the British government.

Balancing act that could lead to a heavy fall

Donald Fields on the Swedish economy's problems

AS RECENTLY as April 24 Mr Kjell-Olof Feldt, the grumpy finance minister in Sweden's Social Democratic government, was declaring: "Sweden is on the right track. Our economic recovery has occurred quicker than we expected."

On Monday the Riksbank (Central Bank), announced it was increasing its discount rate from 9.5 per cent to 11.5 per cent in order to staunch an outflow of currency accompanying a current account deficit of unforgotten (1984) million in the first four months of 1985.

As rates on mortgages were lifted to over 16 per cent and an instant 0.6 per cent rise in the cost of living was predicted, the official 3 per cent inflation target for the year looked decidedly chimerical. Four months before a knife-edged general election the non-socialist opposition party started scolding.

Why did Mr Feldt, a man prepared to look reality in the face, read the tea-leaves so abjectly? One factor may be that he and his advisers felt so euphoric about successes already achieved in reducing the chronic fiscal and external deficits they inherited from another government, in 1982, that they overlooked other indicators.

This week's retrenchment can only be gauged by first evaluating Mr Feldt's achievement in the wake of his first radical measure—a 16 per cent devaluation of the krona taken the day after he was installed.

In 1982 total exports grew by 10.5 per cent in volume, by 1.4 per cent in value. Respective percentage increases were 6.0 and 6.7 for industrial production, and 2.5 and 3.0 for gross domestic product. Partly by artificial means, unemployment has been pegged at around 3 per cent.

The central government deficit, 13 per cent of GDP in fiscal 1982-3, should be down to 7 per cent in 1985-6, with 2 per cent annual cuts in real public expenditure scheduled to eradicate it entirely by 1990. The balance of payment, Skr23 billion (£2.2 billion) in the red, in 1982, was Skr1 billion (£97 million) in the black last year. Servicing net external indebtedness covering around 30 per cent GNP, has become less formidable, thanks partly to the fall in the dollar in which around half Sweden's liabilities are denominated.

Organised labour, epitomised by the Social Democrat-dominated L. O. trade union confederation, has grudgingly blessed the Feldt balancing act, including as it does an investment-boosting swelling of company profits.

Outlining his revised budget last month, the finance minister promised workers their first real wage increase for years spiced with a one-off tax concession.

With his three-year mandate, widely considered too short, Mr Feldt appeared to have proved that dire straits can be remedied by drastic means. Even the union-controlled wage-earner funds, launched last year, appeared less a thorn in his side as opinion polls started swinging back towards the Social Democrats.

Many of the million Swedish voters who had not made up their minds at the last poll may have done so since Monday—and it will hardly be the government's favour. Along with the bank rate change are various credit restrictions designed to dampen a sudden consumer spree.

Admittedly, Mr Feldt insists that Sweden remains on course, with the monetary measures amounting to an adjustment of the rudder. He

stresses that the latest move is aimed only against the more sumptuous side of the Swedish lifestyle.

Above all, there was last year's failure to curb inflation, which ran at 8.1 per cent against the 4 per cent official objective.

This year started with industrialists warning that two thirds of the competitive edge gained by devaluation had been eaten away, and forecasting that it would vanish entirely by the end of the year. This month the influential business weekly Veckans Affärer wrote that Sweden was already preparing for its next major devaluation.

In January the Riksbank raised its money market rates by two points, but this had little effect on capital movements. By this week Skr11 billion (£1.1 billion) had been drained out of the country over a six-month period. One key factor was an exceptionally hard winter that boosted energy imports, hampered export deliveries and mocked trade predictions.

Though some economists believed the distortion would be quickly ironed out others feared the balance of payments could plunge towards a Skr20 billion (£1.9 billion) deficit in 1985. Mr Feldt's figure is Skr3.1 billion (£300 million) and the FK Bank, a state-run commercial bank, to take one other example, has just plumped for Skr4 billion (£390 million).

Thrashing around for means to meet his inflation target, Mr Feldt introduced a general price freeze in March, officially in force until companies guarantee "not to raise their prices above what is justified by actual cost increases." Things looked distinctly stop-go because another price freeze had been abandoned last year.

Bullish news for insiders

THE INTERNAL stock exchange run by CMB, a computer services group owned by its staff, is ultra-bullish this year.

Today CMB reports record pre-tax profits for 1984 of £2.19 million — a 62 per cent rise. Turnover, at £27.88 million, was up by 14 per cent. The net dividend to shareholders is 4.5p on 13.2 million shares.

Mr Ron White, the managing director, said yesterday that on the internal stock exchange the 5p shares were changing hands at £1.25. The group sets a fixed price for one annual day of official dealings. Had it not been for a bonus issue five months ago of 16 new shares for

each share held, the shares would have traded this year at £1.25.

There were 587 shareholders last year but Mr White expects the total to pass 750 this year. The total staff is about 850, 500 in the UK, the rest in Dutch and German subsidiaries.

The company was started in London 21 years ago next August, and one of the founders, Mr Doug Gorman, is still a full-time director. He owns 27 per cent of the stock, but everyone else is restricted to a 5 per cent holding.

Mr White, who has been with CMB for 18 years, said that turnover last year split 60-40 between Britain and

the Continent. This represents a slight shift to UK business.

CMG is not a cooperative. There are elected staff committees, but Mr White said these were for "opinion gathering and information passing." Decisions are taken through an orthodox board structure.

But everyone shares the same open-plan working conditions. There are no private offices — and no reserve car-park slots. The group is also decentralised. Mr Tudor Francis, the personnel director, said the 20 subsidiary companies enjoyed as much autonomy as possible.

Peter Large

Land Securities

Abridged summary of Results for the Year ended 31st March, 1985

	31.3.85 £m	31.3.84 £m	Increase %
Total income	148.4	137.7	7.8
made up of			
Rental income	132.1	116.1	
Service charges and other recoveries	12.2	12.6	
Income from short term deposits	4.1	9.0	
Net rents and interest receivable	114.9	103.7	10.8
Income on ordinary activities before taxation	95.6	84.0	13.8
Taxation	36.6	33.3	
Income available for distribution	59.0	50.7	16.4
Dividends per share paid (2.6p) and proposed (5.55p); 1984: 7.267p	41.0	36.0	
Earnings per share	11.72p	10.23p	14.6
Dividend cover — times	1.44	1.41	

The Knight Frank & Rutley valuation of the portfolio as at 31st March, 1985, in which each property was valued individually and in its present state, totalled £2,335.7m, an increase of £147.3m over the valuation at the previous year end. Taking into account expenditure on properties, £69.4m, and the aggregate book value of properties sold, £24.9m, during the period, the surplus on revaluation was £102.8m, an increase of 4.6% (1984: 6.6%).

Having included the valuation in the Accounts at 31st March, 1985 and without adjusting for any taxation payable in the event of properties being sold, the Consolidated net assets of the Group at that date amounted to £2,016.5m, on which basis the net asset value per share is 401p.

In last year's Directors' Report reference was made to the fact that over 1 million sq. ft. of air-conditioned office space in the City, West End and Victoria was in the process of being redevalued or refurbished. By the end of March 1985, 912,000 sq. ft. of this space had been completed or virtually completed, of which 852,000 sq. ft. had been let or the terms for letting agreed and 60,000 sq. ft. completed and not let. The balance, 156,000 sq. ft., is not due for completion until later this year or next year.

At 31st March, 1985 Group short term funds amounted to £25.1m and agreed realisations of property, for which contracts had not yet been exchanged, aggregated £9.4m. At that date capital commitments, including expenditure phased over periods of up to two years to complete developments, totalled £46.1m. The bank facilities available to the Group have been increased to £50m.

The full Report of the Directors and the Accounts for the year containing an unqualified Report by the Auditors, a detailed property portfolio review and a list of the Group's major property holdings are due to be distributed to Shareholders on 30th May, 1985. Non-shareholders who would like a copy are requested to write to The Secretary:-

LAND SECURITIES PLC Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London W1X 6BT

MY FIRST IS IN BOLD
AND IN BALANCED
MY SECOND IS IN FLEXIBILITY
AND IN COMMITMENT
MY THIRD IS IN PROFIT
AND IN RESULTS
MY WHOLE IS A COMPANY
THAT'S GREATER THAN
THE SUM OF THE PARTS

For a clear view of our performance send for our Annual Report.

BTR PLC, SILVERTOWN HOUSE, VINCENT SQUARE, LONDON SW1P 2PL. 01-634 3848.

The great leveller has the wrong answers for us

Bryan Gould MP says membership of the EMS would have no advantages



ECONOMICS AGENDA

THE CASE for joining the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System has, in the past, been argued largely on political grounds. Over recent months, however, there has been a significant change. There are now those—including the Governor of the Bank of England, the CBI and Lloyd's—who profess to see some economic advantage in such a move.

The pound's gyrations against the dollar no doubt have something to do with this sentiment. Yet, as the Prime Minister pointed out recently in the House, full membership of the EMS would have made only the most marginal difference to what has essentially been a dollar problem.

European currencies, including the mark, have proved

vulnerable to the dollar's headstrong course, whether in or out of the exchange rate mechanism. For sterling, EMS membership would actually mean a reduced ability to maintain a particular parity against the dollar.

Nor is there any evidence that exchange rate stability of itself would necessarily be of great help to our economy. It is relatively easy to hedge against short-term volatility; and it is arguable that, in the long term, a variable exchange rate is the most efficient and least disruptive means of absorbing and reflecting economic changes.

Indeed, the most recent Bank of England study on this subject concluded that British industry was unusually impervious to exchange rate variations. This is possibly because we have lived with declining price competitiveness for so long that those parts of our economy which are still able to compete internationally are those which are not particularly price sensitive.

It is sometimes suggested that EMS membership would mean lower interest rates, since the EMS arrangements would take up some of the burden of supporting a given parity; but since the EMS would no doubt peg the exchange rate at a higher level, more support would be needed and higher interest rates would have to play their part. It is also worth remarking that French and Italian participation has depended substantially on their

use of exchange controls. In any case, pegging the pound against the mark in the EMS is the last thing we need. We are already 50 per cent less price competitive in real terms against the Germans than we were in 1976, when we undertook to the IMF to maintain the level of competitiveness than obtaining. We have no hope of resolving our economic problems and reversing the \$6 billion deficit with the Germans in our trade in manufactured goods if, through joining the EMS, we make it impossible to claw back some of that lost competitiveness.

It is surprising, in these circumstances, that the CBI should emerge as an advocate of EMS membership. It was, after all, the CBI which warned in 1978 of the damaging effects of sterling's then over-valuation.

There are those who say that, if joining the EMS is right in principle, the particular parity would not matter too much, since the economy would adjust to any over-valuation over a three or four-year period. This is surely, however, to underestimate the long-term, cumulative and self-reinforcing damage which over-valuation causes.

Even if we could engineer our entry at a competitive rate against the mark, fundamental problems would remain. The EMS has worked relatively well as long as the participating governments agree on giving

priority to the battle against inflation. This is because it has in effect operated as a D-mark zone, enjoining upon all its members the restrictive disciplines of German monetary policy and setting targets which can be met irrespective of what is happening to the real economies of member states.

If, however, European governments or their successors should turn their attention to unemployment, as we must hope they will, it is unlikely that the EMS could be sustained so easily. A successful attack on unemployment through the sort of expansionary policy which Labour government, for example, would wish to pursue, could be maintained only by breaking free of the very restrictions which the EMS is meant to entrench.

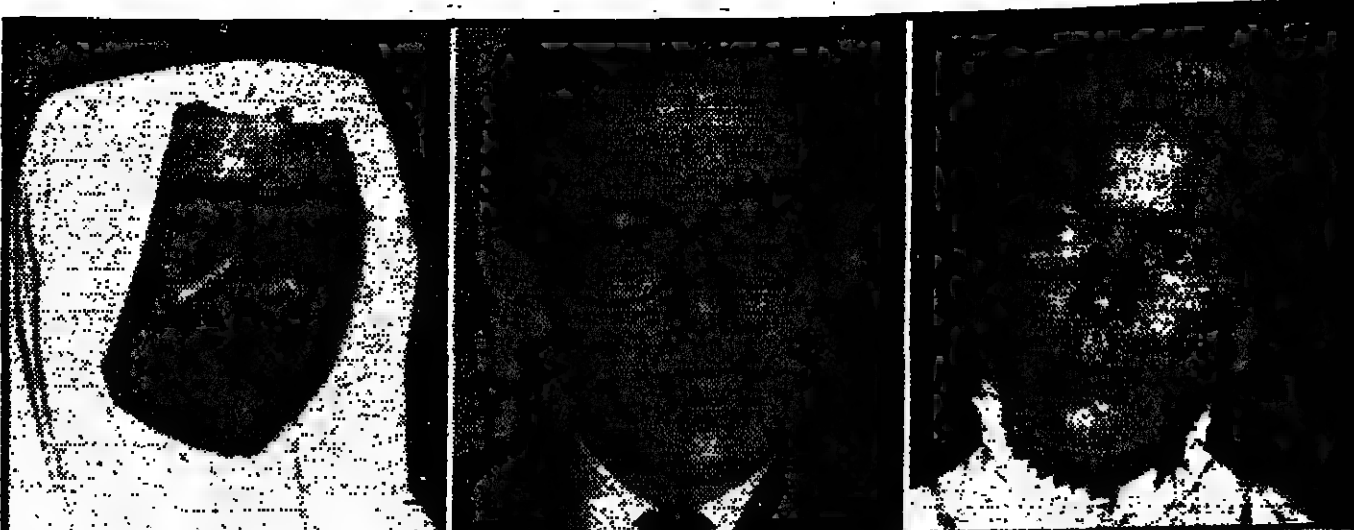
Whereas EEC inflation targets can be co-ordinated even if real economies are diverging, the same is not true of unemployment. A co-ordinated EEC attack on unemployment would require the convergence of real economies — something which the EMS, with its in-built bias towards restriction and its emphasis on monetary and exchange rate targets, makes more difficult.

Indeed, the alignment of exchange rates and, therefore, of the monetary policies needed to maintain them reinforces the pattern of divergence: prohibited from improving competitiveness either directly, through the exchange rate, or indirectly, through expansion, weaker economies have no chance of closing the competitiveness gap.

Perhaps the most telling argument against joining the EMS is, however, a purely logical one. EMS membership can only mean disadvantages, since any advantage to be gained could be obtained by following its designings voluntarily, as non-members.

Why should we lock ourselves into an excessively tight monetary policy and an over-valued exchange rate when, as the present Government has demonstrated, we can do that ourselves anyway? At issue is not only outside we can keep open the option of an expansionary economic policy and a genuine attack on unemployment.

Bryan Gould is Labour MP for Dagenham.



Khashoggi and the Duchess of Kent are losers—but Lloyd's chairman Peter Miller is adamant

Names might face the music, but Lloyd's must face the future

Mary Brasier looks at the impact of the PCW insurance scandals

They used to ring the Lutine bell regularly to signal disaster at Lloyd's. That custom rarely happens now although of course the disasters have continued. It is not shipwrecks that make underwriters jump today; it is pollution, asbestos and satellites in wrong orbits. And internal catastrophes. The PCW affair really makes the modern alarm bells ring.

Names who have suffered PCW losses include the rich and famous from Adnan Khashoggi, the Saudi arms dealer, to the Duchess of Kent. But they also number ordinary individuals who joined Lloyd's because they had some spare money.

It is not just that 1,500 names owe a collective debt of £80 million this year, that individually they face bills of £500,000 and bankruptcy in a few cases. It heralds a crisis for the whole market in three separate and possible ways.

PCW is the biggest loss in Lloyd's history — it could run to £130 million and more. It is bound to dent the enthusiasm wealthy individuals have for joining a market where they have unlimited liability — down to their last proverbial golden centime.

The figures until now have not borne this out because membership has risen inexorably to a record new entry last year of 2,500. And of course PCW is but one, if notorious, set of syndicates where everything has happened from malpractice to incompetence to no doubt a sprinkling of bad luck. There are plenty of syndicates in the market still making profits.

But the collapse of the PCW syndicates plus attendant publicity is likely to focus potential names' minds more than ever before on what can happen if you pledge limitless wealth to the skills of one underwriter. Many of the PCW names

are also on other syndicates where they may have made profits. The profits are unlikely to offset their PCW losses. There will still be a large cheque to write.

Their plight will also focus attention on the treatment Lloyd's itself is prepared to hand out to stricken names. Lloyd's chairman, Peter Miller's response to the crisis was to repeat quite firmly that it was not the council's role to get names off the hook. They are, he insisted, liable for their own losses.

Lloyd's can dish out tea, sympathy, administrative help and extend the deadline by which they must meet their debts but that is all.

It is not a strategy that is likely to be one of Lloyd's best advertisements. Names are the capital base on which Lloyd's depends, but many complain that their importance to the market is not recognised in the way they are treated when something goes wrong. The world's image of a Lloyd's name this week is that of a middle-aged, middle-class man or woman turning up at

the Royal Festival Hall to hear how they have been financially ruined. Yet Lloyd's stance is that it cannot help them, just as it could not help them last year when £38 million of their money was diverted abroad.

But the fact is that many names join the market initially to become members of Lloyd's not because they want a share in a particular person's syndicate. The good name of Lloyd's among its investors is at risk because of disasters like PCW.

What then of Lloyd's good name among its policy holders? As things stand a Lloyd's policy is a by-word for British excellence. It has the kind of supremacy in its field that Rolls-Royce and Douglon china represent. Its reputation reflects the fact that claims are always met — and that Lloyd's itself is not going to go bust.

The spectacle of several hundred names refusing to pay losses cannot help that reputation but the damage is probably containable. It may be less easy to manage a few years hence.

Finally Lloyd's central fund, the ultimate guarantee that policyholders will get paid in under attack from the PCW crisis. The fund currently stands at £167 million of liquid resources which can be called upon quickly to pay out claims. It cannot be used to fund names' losses but if they refuse to pay, funds can be earmarked against the central fund leaving Lloyd's to pursue the name — through the courts if necessary — to recover the money.

A mass default by PCW names is not going to make much more than a dent by itself in the central fund. Potential losses are £130 million and Lloyd's can call on names' deposits and reserves before it has to even bite into the fund to pay.

Chief executive, Mr Ian Davidson said yesterday that there was no reason for concern over the central fund. But there is a potential problem two or three years down the line. PCW names have been warned of at least £17 million of losses still to come for 1983 and 1984. Losses are still not finalised on syndicate 895 where members like Mark Cox and Virginia Wade have already been warned of a £20 million deficit.

The fall-out from asbestos and so on could add to Lloyd's overall losses at least in the short term. If there is a mass rebellion by PCW names, many of whom feel they have nothing to lose by being suspended from underwriting for non-payment, the central fund will be badly depleted to deal with future losses.

Lloyd's ultimate financial position is not of course in jeopardy. Behind the central fund stands £146 million of the corporation's net assets. But the spectre of Lloyd's trying to sell and leaseback its new building would make this week's Festival Hall meeting look like a tea party.

General Accident

THREE-MONTHS' RESULTS

The results for the three months ended 31st March 1985, estimated and subject to audit, are compared below with those for the similar period in 1984, which are restated at 31st December 1984 rates of exchange; also shown are the actual results for the full year 1984.

It must be emphasised that the results for an interim period do not usually provide a reliable indication of those for the full year.

	3 Months to 31.3.85 Estimate £ millions	3 Months to 31.3.84 Estimate £ millions	1984 Actual £ millions
Net written premiums — General Business	439.4	411.8	1,689.0
Investment Income	64.9	62.8	268.2
Underwriting Result — General Business	(64.6)	(80.3)	(288.3)
Long Term Insurance Profits	2.3	1.4	7.7
Loan Interest	(17.5)	(18.1)	5.6
Profit (Loss) before Tax and Minority Interests	(18.0)	(18.5)	3.9
Taxation	(6.4)	(7.8)	(8.1)
Minority Interests and Preference Dividend	0.7	0.3	2.2
Net Profit (Loss) attributable to Shareholders	(9.3)	(9.0)	8.8
Principal exchange rates used in translating overseas results			
U.S.A.	\$1.24	\$1.16	\$1.16
Canada	\$1.69	\$1.53	\$1.53

Net written premiums and investment income increased in sterling terms by 6.4% and 3.3%, respectively. Adjusted to exclude the effects of currency fluctuations, the increases were 11.5% and 7.9%, respectively.

The first quarter result has again been seriously affected by severe weather losses principally in the United Kingdom but also in the U.S.A., Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

In the United Kingdom, net written premiums were £132.6m (1984, £125.5m) and there was an underwriting loss of £30.9m (1984, £31.1m). This marginal improvement was achieved despite a substantial deterioration in the Motor account result. The upsurge in claim frequency in the second half of last year continued into the first quarter producing a loss of £7.7m (1984, £1.9m loss). The impact of bad weather was taken mainly in the Homeowners and Commercial Property accounts giving rise to losses of £10.3m (1984, £12.6m loss) and £10.4m (1984, £12.8m loss) respectively. These accounts received some benefit from rate increases but the Commercial Property account suffered from an unusually high number of large fire claims. Experience in the Liability classes showed a substantial improvement but remains adverse.

In the United States, net written premiums were \$240.3m (1984, \$213.6m) and the operating ratio was 119.75%, as compared with 119.53% for the same period last year. On the United Kingdom accounting basis, the underwriting loss was £37.5m (1984, £35.8m loss). Some further deterioration in personal lines experience was largely offset by an improved result from the commercial accounts which are beginning to benefit from rate increases.

Elsewhere there were aggregate underwriting losses of £16.2m (1984, £13.4m loss). There was some improvement in experience in the E.E.C. territories but the incidence of weather claims led to sharply increased underwriting losses in Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Single premiums for Life business in the United Kingdom, following the successful launch of our unit-linked products, were sharply up at £31.0m (1984, £14.4m). New Annual premiums were lower at £5.9m (1984, £9.0m), the 1984 figure having been affected by the pre-budget increase in business.

General Accident Fire & Life Assurance Corporation plc

World Headquarters: Pitheavlis, Perth, Scotland PH2 0NH.

Free can be a costly word

WORDS like "free" or "sale" have emotive overtones and should be used carefully in advertising copy, the Advertising Standards Authority rules today.

There is nothing wrong in using words that invite an emotional response, but if the words are at odds with reality the response is likely to be an emotional reaction of a kind which no advertiser wants, that is, a complaint to the ASA, the authority's monthly case report claims.

Nothing should be described as "free" if there is any direct cost to the consumer, other than the actual cost of delivery, postage or freight. And if delivery or postage must be paid by people accepting a "free" offer, this must be clearly stated in all advertising matter.

A member of the public, for instance, took exception to an advertisement which offered a "free" calendar, and who subsequently discovered that a charge of \$2.95 would be made for postage and packing.

The advertiser said that the postage actually cost £1.62 and that the rest of the charge was accounted for almost entirely by the cost of special packaging material required for safe postal delivery. This was not a "free" offer, the ASA ruled. No additional charge for packaging should have been made.

Neither is an offer "free" if a consumer has to order certain goods in order to obtain it.

The ASA also dislikes "closing down sales" that are still closing down months after the first advertisement appears. "There is no objection to the urgency as such," says the authority. "What does matter is that the facts are true. A closing down sale that goes on for two years is not a sale at all, it is a continuance of normal business."

Advertised claims that sales are due to personal crises experienced by the advertiser, illness, or an overseas disaster, are also distasteful to the ASA. "Advertisements like these, even if the letter of them can be said (just) to conform to the advertising code, if for instance a medical attendant witnesses the illness or the overseas disaster is common knowledge, bring no credit on the advertising business," the monthly report rules.

Rosemary Collins

'We face the future with confidence and resilience'

JOHN CAMDEN CHAIRMAN

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Turnover	£1174.9 million	up 12%
Pre-tax profit	£81.3 million	up 14%
Earnings per share	45.1p	up 14%

1984 was a year of mixed fortune. The improvement in trading conditions which started in 1983 and continued into the early months of 1984 was not sustained during the second half of the year. Trading in the United Kingdom and West Germany became more difficult as the year progressed. However, another strong performance from our Concrete and Aggregates Sector in the United Kingdom and a contribution of increasing importance from our operations in the United States ensured that Group profit before taxation increased by 14%.

In a year in which success was nowhere easy, we were especially dependent on the abilities and commitment of our employees. It is a pleasure to draw attention to the substantial achievements during

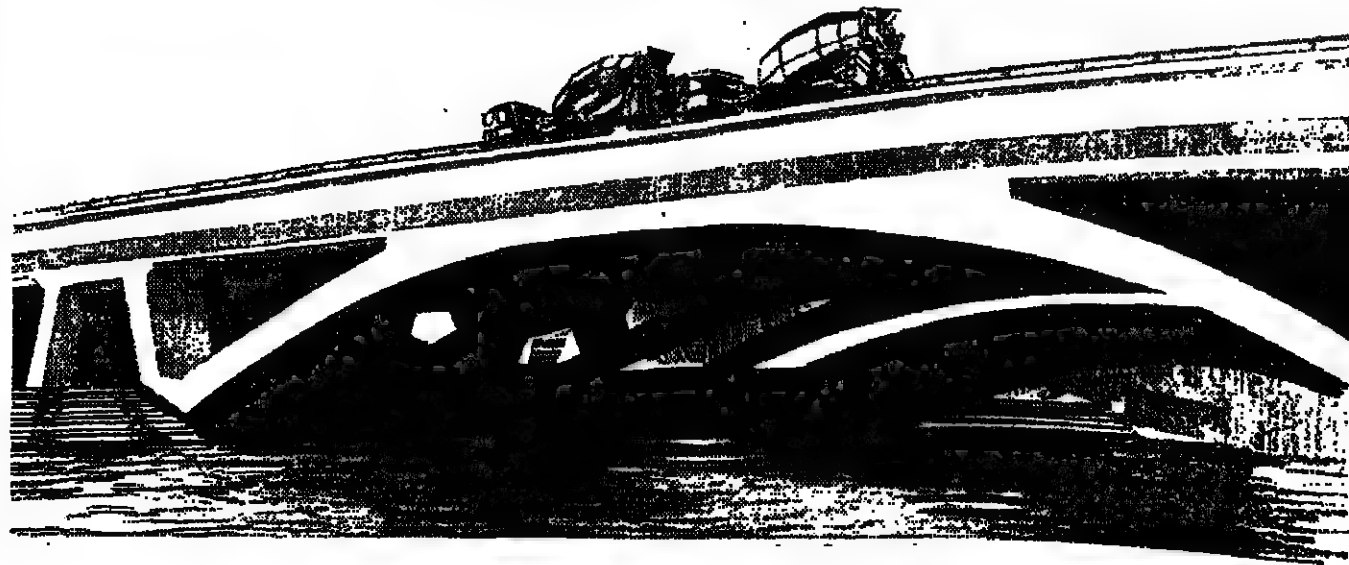
the year of the people who work for the RMC Group throughout the world.

Looking ahead, 1985 seems likely to be a tough year for us. Throughout the world the outlook for the construction industry is uncertain, while in the United Kingdom and Europe atrocious weather conditions have meant a difficult start to the year. Nevertheless I am confident that the strength of our team at RMC, and the sound base which we have created, coupled with our strong cash flow, enables us to face the future with confidence and resilience.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel, Cadogan Place, London SW1 on 7th June 1985 at 11.30 a.m. If you would like a copy of the 1984 Annual Report please write to The Secretary, RMC Group p.l.c., RMC House, High Street, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 4HA.

THE RMC GROUP OPERATES INTERNATIONALLY IN AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, FRANCE, HOLLAND, HONG KONG, ISRAEL, REPUBLIC OF IRELAND, SPAIN, TRINIDAD, UNITED KINGDOM, USA AND WEST GERMANY.

RMC Group p.l.c.



Price war in US takes shine off Sears

By Robin Stoddart

Sears Holdings, the Solihull, Dorset and Saxon retailers, has been outshone by other department store and shoe chains last year, partly because its profitability was already so much above average previously, but primarily because of the price war afflicting the newer United States operations. The message must be that some of the fat margins currently being earned on British high streets are ephemeral.

Nevertheless, the rise in turnover to £2,019 million from £1,838 million, accompanied by a parallel pre-tax profit improvement to £175.2

million against £159.1 million in the year to January 31, was not taken amiss in the City. The recent acquisition of Foster Brothers shows that within the monopoly constraints new opportunities will be seized. And apart from the next cyclical upturn in the US shoe business, there is the hope of higher returns from the William Hill betting operations and the stakes in jewellery and building.

Footwear retailing profits in the US were about halved to £7.1 million even though stocks were kept down at reasonable levels. The home chain, with three times the turnover, made this up, though margins were pared by slower sales in the



Geoffrey Maitland Smith: Selfridges's booming

areas hit by the miners' strike. from the tourist inflow and The Selfridges and Lewis profit was £7.4 million up at £26 million on a turnover gain

of 8 per cent to just over £300 million. The fashion and sports chain, including Olympus which is set to extend to the Continent, also made good progress with margins in higher double figures.

Mappin and Garrard's jewellery earnings trebled and the upturn looks set to continue as spending in the prime Knightsbridge area soars. Again, though, the Miss Erika chain in the US suffered from the emphasis on housing and other large items of spending, rather than fashion goods.

The reduced stake in engineering produced a slightly higher return along with the motor operations, but construction earnings were down a lit-

tle. Property revenue kept on rising at £7.6 million and there were doubled non-trading gains of a similar order.

The chairman, Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith, reports that while sales have been still buoyant, there is as yet little sign of the retail boom extending across the Atlantic. He is confident about the returns that can be won from Foster, while rival bidder Ward White expands elsewhere and along with Hanson contends with the US situation. Overseas expansion will continue.

The final dividend is being lifted to 2.2p net a share, taking the total to 9p, from 2.5p, covered by earnings a penny up at 8.1p.

Premium on new Bae shares is 43p

THE MARKETS

Share prices came down with a bump yesterday following Monday's euphoria that greeted the British Aerospace offer success. Bae's new partly-paid shares recorded a premium of 43p, below the 50p-plus expected by some optimists. This was partly due to profit taking in the old shares which cut 20p from the price to 41p.

The mood was not helped by developments as the takeover front. Debenhams plunged to 285p at one stage before rallying to 302p, a net fall of 26p, following a statement from the Burton Group chairman

on recent merger activity and Trafalgar House stake-building operations.

Oils were perkier than of late ahead of profits news from majors later this week and an Aramco Energy bid for Petrolex which promoted demand for other onshore explorers. Higher provisional retail sales for April did little for stores which reeled with Debenhams. Golds gained another dollar or two.

Insurances had a largely dull session, though composites cheered up following the release of the General Accident figures. General Accident themselves had been at 606p prior to the results, but eventually settled for a 3p rise at 619p after the £18 million loss proved to be at the lower end of the range expected.

Banks also had a dull day, hit by worries over the South American debt problem. Lloyds dropped 10p to 584p. National Westminster, however, managed a slight gain of 3p at 677p.

Main changes: Mulrhea 160p down 35p; Debenhams 302p down 26p; British Aerospace ordinary 416p down 20p; Burton 470p up 11p; British Aerospace new 243p (200p pp); Minel 213p down 18p; Vickers 322p down 16p; General Accident 619p up 3p.

Equity turnover for Monday: bargains, 25,923; value, £438.7 million.

Paris: prices closed mixed to higher in moderately active trading. The market indicator finished the day 0.5 per cent above Monday's closing level.

Frankfurt: The declining dollar and hopes for lower interest rates sent share prices up to record high levels once again.

Commerzbank roared ahead 12.4 points to a new peak reading of 1263.8, erasing the previous record set on Monday of 1251.2.

Tokyo: prices drifted lower, as a lack of buyers kept the market from building up power. Nikkei Dow Jones index: 12,504.20 (12,541.53).

Hong Kong: profit-taking carried most share prices lower in moderate trading. Hang Seng index: 1815.00 (1828.29).

FT Ordinary Share Index down 4.6 at 1,012.3. FTSE 100 Index down 1.5 at 1,326.5. Pound: \$1.2727; DM 3.87; Fr 11.83. Gold: \$327. Account: April 29 to May 10. FT All Share Index down 2.40 at 637.44. The Land Securities results not being. Builders had several firm spots

COMPANY BRIEFING

Digging in a little deeper

Spear & Jackson's three-pronged recovery is not proving an early haymaker, but the garden equipment and cutting tools group is looking strong enough to maintain its independence.

Heavy spending on the promotion of lawn treatment chemicals and concentration of the metal saw operation enlarged by the Firth Brown acquisition on one Sheffield site limited the improvement in profit last year. Lumber saw sales in Canada swing down later on.

Turnover rose to £36.3 million from £31.6 million, and pre-tax profit edged ahead to £1.38 million from £1.22 million, both a little lower than earlier hopes.

Apart from the miners' strike and downturn in housebuilding in North America, affecting lumber milling activity, the greater emphasis on marketing and DIY distribution tended to delay sales until the spring. The year end is therefore being changed to March 31. Some engineering tools were withdrawn in the face of severe competition at an extraordinary net charge of £200,000.

Once again, just over 40 per cent of sales were overseas. This includes the French branch which is a major exporter to North America. A strong improvement in productivity and profit was finally achieved in the operations and the trend is continuing, even though domestic demand remains flat.

The final dividend is being raised to 4p net a share, from 3.5p, taking the total to 8p, from 5.2p. Earnings improved to 15p and the financial situation is quite strong. The board is more confident of rising demand than for several years past, though fully-dedged

ARNOLD ZIFF (right), chairman of Style Shoes, yesterday delivered the doubled profits he promised shareholders in January. Mr Ziff's fierce battle to hang on to control of Style in the face of a tender offer from John Bithell's British Land brought him many critics. But, as he forecast, profits have risen by 114 per cent to £2.35 million despite a rise in interest from £217,000 to £1.28 million after a near doubling in short term borrowings to £10.6 million. The dividend is also doubled to 4.5p. Sales rose by 20 per cent to £58.7 million.

Industrial recovery by traditional customers remains something of a mirage.

Kennedy cash call

Kennedy Brothers, the "Wheeler's" and "Mario and Franco" restaurants group, is raising £10 million from shareholders to finance continued expansion of the business.

The group, which currently operates around 70 restaurants, wine bars and hotels, is keen to add to its two existing country house hotels and is planning further expansion of its restaurant chains, partly on a franchise basis.

Shareholders are being asked to put up the new money by taking up £7.50p nominal of a 6.25 per cent convertible loan stock for every 10 ordinary shares, currently owned. Final redemption date of the stock will be December 31, 2002.

The net proceeds of the issue, estimated at £9.65 million, will initially be used to reduce group borrowings.

Under the weather

Poor first quarter results from General Accident, the UK's fourth largest composite insurer and leading motor in-



surer, once again mainly reflect severe weather losses both at home and overseas.

In the UK there was a small improvement in the underwriting loss to £30.9 million against £31.1 million. This was due mainly to the deterioration in the motor account being offset by better trading in the liability and traders' accounts being offset by better trading in the liability and traders' accounts.

Losses were up in the US by nearly £2 million at £37.5 million and other overseas countries losses rose by nearly £3 million to £16.3 million. Total premium income rose by 11.5 per cent to £438 million.

GA's chief general manager, Mr Buchanan Marshall, said that the bad weather remains the main cause for concern. But he added, it becomes more difficult to use as a justification as it becomes a regular feature. Apart from further weather losses the group is cautiously optimistic about trading this year and 1986.

Land Securities is poised to reap the benefits of its huge London office development

programme. Chairman Lord Samuel said yesterday that £32,000 sq. ft. had been let on a long-term basis of one million sq. ft. being redeveloped or refurbished.

Land Securities, the UK's largest property company, has completed £12,000 sq. ft. of development and plans to finish the balance by next year. It has let all but 60,000 sq. ft. of the offices so far completed.

Lord Samuel revealed yesterday that profits had risen from £24 million to £25.6 million, on rental income which has grown from £116.1 million to £132.1 million.

A revaluation of the group's investment property portfolio has shown that it is now worth £2,335 million, up by £147.3 million since the end of 1984. The group sold nearly £25 million of property and spent £28.4 million on the portfolio.

The growth in the portfolio's value has slowed from 6.6 per cent in 1984 to 4.6 per cent. Shareholders collect a dividend of 11.64p.

BIOMED, Europe's biggest but deeply troubled biotechnology company, has sunk further into the red. The group's Nobel Prize-winning founder, Harvard scientist Dr Walter Gilbert, resigned as chairman last December. Yesterday BIOMED reported that its net loss for the first quarter of 1985 rose to nearly \$5 million, as against \$3.6 million in the first three months of 1984.

Topping Telerate

Telerate, operators of the financial information network which comes closest to rivaling Reuters, yesterday announced a rise in net earnings for the second quarter of 1984 to US\$8.6 million from \$6.9 million. Earnings per share increased to 20 cents from 16 cents. On a six-month basis, net income is up 36 per cent at \$15.8 million compared with \$11.6 million.

Mr Neil Hirsch, president and chief executive, attributes the company's performance to

the growth in the financial information industry, though its breakthrough into the London market seems as yet uncertain. Telerate is 51.9 per cent controlled by Exco International, the financial services group.

Seccombe's big bill

The Bank of England's bill broker, Seccombe Marshall & Campion, used almost half its net profits to cover the expenses of the takeover by US banking giant Citicorp, according to its last annual results as an independent firm, out yesterday. Net profit was £170,000. Seccombe is one of the smallest of the City's discount houses - but the firm deducted £80,000 from this for the cost of being bought out, leaving £90,000 compared with £486,000 a year earlier. After bringing forward retained profits of £585,000, Seccombe's profits were £675,000 compared with £1.05 million in the previous year.

The Seccombe takeover went through last month. There is no final dividend, which was taken into account in the offer price. As a result of the first takeover by a bank of a discount house, the Bank of England will drop Seccombe Marshall and carry out its own dealings with the discount market without using a broker.

The takeover was part of an intermediary, Seccombe will become part of Citicorp's developing securities business in London which is expected to include a primary gilt dealership which will work closely with the discount house.

Lloyd's Life sale soon

Lloyd's of London is hoping to complete the sale of its successful Lloyd's Life unit-linked life assurance business within the next few weeks.

The company, which has 250,000 policy holders and a claim of 350 per cent on sale more than three months ago but the disposal has taken longer than expected because of logistical problems created

by the strong overseas interest in the business.

Merchant bankers acting for Lloyd's have whittled the bidders down to a short list of six and will be asking the prospective owners to submit their bids within the next week or so. It is hoped to complete the sale by the end of this month or early in June.

Lloyd's is anticipating bids in the region of £50 million to £100 million from the UK, North American and Continental companies still in the running but has made it clear that the top bid will not necessarily win the day.

A spokesman stressed yesterday that particular importance would also be placed on retaining proper incentives for the Lloyd's Life management team and on ensuring that policy holders would not suffer as a result of the change of ownership.

Muirhead were another weak spot as directors changed their minds and opted for the RHP offer terms. The shares dropped 36p to 160p. These two situations helped to unsettle other potential takeover candidates. Vickers, for example, reacted 36p to 322p.

Shares elsewhere suffered as jobbers took advantage of the change in sentiment. The strength of sterling was responsible for double-figure losses among some international Banks gave back 10p of their recent gains as South American debt problems reared again. Insurances were supported by reasonable losses from General Accident, but brokers slipped behind Minel, (down 18p to 213p) where the Richard Beckett agency underwriting losses are expected to reach £30 million.

British Telecom competition fears returned to the electrical sector. Properties retreated from recent strength as the Land Securities results not being. Builders had several firm spots

WACE turned a loss of £185,000 into a profit of £228,000 in 1984 - the first profit since 1979.

MARKETHEAT Securities is raising £7.3 million through a one-for-one rights issue at 50p. Profits of £1.4 million are forecast for 1985/6.

Edited by Tony May

COMMODITIES

Copper	£1,222 per tonne, three months	£2,148 per tonne, Nov £2,178
Gold	£1,208 per ounce, three months	£1,205 per ounce, Nov £1,190
Oil	£40.25 per barrel, three months	£40.25 per barrel, Nov £40.25
Wheat	£120.50 per tonne, three months	£120.50 per tonne, Nov £120.50
Soybeans	£120.50 per tonne, three months	£120.50 per tonne, Nov £120.50
Live cattle	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Sheep	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Pigs	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Chicken	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Beef	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Lamb	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Butter	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Cheese	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Eggs	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Milk	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Yoghurt	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Ice cream	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Chocolate	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Coffee	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Tea	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Sugar	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Starch	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Flour	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Grain	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Oilseeds	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Alcohol	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Tobacco	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Spices	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Herbs	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Essential oils	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Resins	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Gums	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Waxes	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Asphalt	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Bitumen	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Crude oil	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Gas	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Coal	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Lignite	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Wood	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Pulp	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Paper	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Textiles	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Leather	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Fur	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Feathers	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Wool	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Hides	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Antelope	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Goats	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Sheep	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Cattle	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Pigs	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Chicken	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Beef	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Lamb	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Butter	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Cheese	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Eggs	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Milk	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Yoghurt	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Ice cream	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Chocolate	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Coffee	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Tea	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Sugar	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Starch	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Flour	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Grain	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Oilseeds	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Alcohol	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Tobacco	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Spices	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Herbs	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Essential oils	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Resins	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Gums	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Waxes	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Asphalt	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Bitumen	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Crude oil	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Gas	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Coal	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Lignite	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Wood	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Pulp	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Paper	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Textiles	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Leather	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Fur	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Feathers	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Wool	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Hides	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Antelope	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Goats	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Sheep	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Cattle	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Pigs	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Chicken	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Beef	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Lamb	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Butter	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Cheese	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Eggs	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Milk	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Yoghurt	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Ice cream	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50 per head, Nov £120.50
Chocolate	£120.50 per head, three months	£120.50

David Foot at Taunton

Golden touch by Tavare



SHARP: Cool qualities

SHARP: Cool qualities

give the team will be important to Everton's chances as will Gray's aggressive, abrasive qualities and Neal's complete qualities near goal. Even more will depend on Ratcliffe and Mountfield gaining an early mastery of their own penalty area and the flank. Franken and Pacult find their best form, then Southall will be given further opportunities to the part he has played in Golden's net-making.

Until the second leg of their semi-final against Bayern Munich, Everton had not conceded a goal in the competition and the solidity of their defence remains fundamental to their success.

DANGERS will be flown free by British Caledonian to tomorrow night's benefit match Chelsea in aid of the Bradford disaster appeal. Chelsea's coach firm, the Crawley-based Two's Company, will provide free travel during the Glasgow club's two-day stay, and the Metropole Hotel, Brighton, free accommodation and meals.

Unreps: K. R. Lyons and K. E. Palmer.

Starting today
Second XI Championship

TADINGTON: Mild v. Kent.
KNOWLE AND BORRIDGE: Warwicks v. Lancashire.
DUDLEY: Warrs v. Derby.

CLING: Eight riders new to the milk race have been named to carry the home amateur challenge in the major international which opens in Bourneouth on May 26. Chris Walker and Adrian Timmis are in the best Britain team with other first-timers, Pete Sanders and Jerry Newbold.

[illegible]

Lords pledge over Ilea's future

By John Carvel,
Political Correspondent

The future of the Inner London Education Authority seemed more secure last night after a backstage promise by Lord Denham, the Government's chief whip in the Lords, to the Rt Rev Graham Leonard, the Bishop of London.

Lord Denham pledged that the Government would not resist the bishop's amendments to protect Ilea when the GLC abolition bill came to report stage in the Lords.

Ministers are still reserving their right to expunge the amendments when the bill returns to the Commons, but such a step would cause delay in the very tight abolition timetable and could cause postponement of the summer recess.

The bishop's amendments would remove contingency clauses allowing the Government to dismember parts of Ilea by parliamentary Order without fresh legislation.

The bishop and opposition peers believed they won this point on Monday, when the Lords defeated the Government for the fourth time on the abolition bill.

The bishop went off to attend to other episcopal business while the House heard a statement on the Bradford disaster.

When peers returned to the bill's committee stage Lord Denham, for the Government, insisted that its defeat only related to a single minor amendment, not to the rest of the bishop's package.

In the confusion, the rest of the package was not put to a vote. Opposition peers claimed that they were the victims of excessively fancy footwork by Lord Gower.

Lord Denham said yesterday that after reading Hansard he had concluded that there was a genuine misunderstanding.

"I rang the bishop and told him that if he put his amendments at report stage he could expect them to go through without a division."

The House clearly intended the amendments package to go through, Lord Denham said. "I got on to him first," he added. There was no ill faith on either side.

Mrs Frances Morrell, the Labour leader in the House, said: "The Government tried to reverse its devastating defeat by backdoor means. The Lords had not been taken in by it. The Lords won a significant victory."

The Government yesterday defeated another opposition attempt to amend the abolition bill in the Lords. An amendment to establish a London strategic arts and leisure authority was defeated by 172 votes to 143.



SILENT TRIBUTE: People pay homage to those who died in the Bradford fire with flowers outside the gutted main stand yesterday. Picture by Don McPhee

Check is urged into payments to junior hospital doctors

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

A review of payments to junior doctors on hospital standby duties was demanded by the National Audit Office yesterday after disclosures that spending exceeded estimates by £24 million a year.

Sir Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor-General, told MPs in a report published yesterday that too many junior doctors may be receiving higher allowances than necessary to provide an adequate service.

The discrepancies are over payments called "units of medical time (UMTs)" paid to junior doctors who work more than a 40-hour week.

Under a 1975 agreement these payments are made at two rates — a higher rate for those on standby or working in hospitals, and a lower rate for doctors who are just on call.

When introduced, it was estimated that the two rates of payments would be collected equally by junior doctors.

An investigation has revealed that 88 per cent of payments are being made at the higher rate.

The National Audit Office has also discovered that in 12 authorities no standards existed for determining which level of payment was required.

There was no monitoring of the workload of doctors claiming the higher allowances.

Where savings had forced health authorities to examine doctors' workloads, one authority had achieved savings of £95,000 and another nearly £80,000.

Sir Gordon concludes: "A review of the present system is called for, at least to establish more clearly appropriate ground rules or, to find an alternative system which more closely reflects the workload of individual junior doctors."

The report also discovered an uneven distribution of merit and distinction awards to top consultants. Some 61 per cent of consultants in paediatrics in England held awards compared with only 14 per cent in accident and emergency medicine.

Report by the Comptroller and Auditor-General: National Health Service: Hospital Based Medical Manpower, Stationery Office, £4.30.

Under a 1975 agreement these payments are made at two rates — a higher rate for those on standby or working in hospitals, and a lower rate for doctors who are just on call.

When introduced, it was estimated that the two rates of payments would be collected equally by junior doctors.

An investigation has revealed that 88 per cent of payments are being made at the higher rate.

The National Audit Office has also discovered that in 12 authorities no standards existed for determining which level of payment was required.

There was no monitoring of the workload of doctors claiming the higher allowances.

Where savings had forced health authorities to examine doctors' workloads, one authority had achieved savings of £95,000 and another nearly £80,000.

Sir Gordon concludes: "A review of the present system is called for, at least to establish more clearly appropriate ground rules or, to find an alternative system which more closely reflects the workload of individual junior doctors."

The report also discovered an uneven distribution of merit and distinction awards to top consultants. Some 61 per cent of consultants in paediatrics in England held awards compared with only 14 per cent in accident and emergency medicine.

Report by the Comptroller and Auditor-General: National Health Service: Hospital Based Medical Manpower, Stationery Office, £4.30.

Under a 1975 agreement these payments are made at two rates — a higher rate for those on standby or working in hospitals, and a lower rate for doctors who are just on call.

When introduced, it was estimated that the two rates of payments would be collected equally by junior doctors.

An investigation has revealed that 88 per cent of payments are being made at the higher rate.

Pym pours scorn on 'governing by slogan'

Continued from page one

described them as erratic. Well, if there is one adjective that surely cannot be applied to the unemployment figures, it is erratic. They have been remorselessly consistent, month in and month out, for many years."

He accused the Government of imprisoning itself in an ideological straitjacket and said that it had given round after round of ammunition to its political opponents. "It stands in danger of being sunk by its own shells," he said.

Now that Mr Pym has now raised his banner of rebellion, his back bench colleagues are watching with interest to see how he now proceeds.

He must now continue his argument against Mrs Thatcher and her senior ministers, and many of his opponents in the party are waiting for the slightest signal that he will now retreat from the position he staked out last night.

His task of recruiting a large number of Tory MPs is formidable but, given the tone of his remarks last night, it is clearly an operation which he relishes.

Reports yesterday that Lord Carrington, the former Foreign Secretary, was promoting a new research centre for welfare Tories surprised supporters of Mr Pym's group.

They had no idea that an exercise involving Lord Carrington, now NATO's secretary-general, was under way to win financial support from industrialists for the centre.

Some of the most dedicated wets, willing to support Mr Pym, dismissed the need for a new think tank.

A new lightning conductor system is being installed at York Minster which was badly damaged last July by a fire caused by lightning.

The system involves two and a half miles of copper strip and rods with conductors connected to hundreds of earthing points. It will cost £48,000.

neighbours looked at the wreckage of their homes in a turn-of-the-century street of terraced houses, it was the police and city who were the subject of their anger. "What you see here is a classic example of citizens being ignored by their government," said one federal worker.

Residents who watched their homes burning down yelled "Assassins" and "Murders" at the police squads collected around the house. The fire department, whose helicopter had dropped the bomb, refused for more than an hour, to douse the flames for fear of being shot by the extremists. Mayor Goode, with his career apparently buried beneath the rubble, sought to make the best of a bad job. "It is easy to second-guess what happened here," he said.

Yesterday, however, as the police to remove the cult, may have been regretting their action yesterday as they looked at the smouldering ruins of their homes. "It's ridiculous. Why did they have to burn down the whole block?" asked one resident. Another said: "They don't bring a solution to the problem. They inflame it by using these kinds of weapons."

The police came to the neighbourhood after repeated complaints from neighbours of violence, squalor, rats, garbage and late night screaming and yelling. They were also especially alert to the group because of its violent background. The siege started to get out of hand when Move allegedly opened fire on police officers.

Yesterday, however, as the police to remove the cult, may have been regretting their action yesterday as they looked at the smouldering ruins of their homes. "It's ridiculous. Why did they have to burn down the whole block?" asked one resident. Another said: "They don't bring a solution to the problem. They inflame it by using these kinds of weapons."

The police came to the neighbourhood after repeated complaints from neighbours of violence, squalor, rats, garbage and late night screaming and yelling. They were also especially alert to the group because of its violent background. The siege started to get out of hand when Move allegedly opened fire on police officers.

Yesterday, however, as the police to remove the cult, may have been regretting their action yesterday as they looked at the smouldering ruins of their homes. "It's ridiculous. Why did they have to burn down the whole block?" asked one resident. Another said: "They don't bring a solution to the problem. They inflame it by using these kinds of weapons."

The police came to the neighbourhood after repeated complaints from neighbours of violence, squalor, rats, garbage and late night screaming and yelling. They were also especially alert to the group because of its violent background. The siege started to get out of hand when Move allegedly opened fire on police officers.

Yesterday, however, as the police to remove the cult, may have been regretting their action yesterday as they looked at the smouldering ruins of their homes. "It's ridiculous. Why did they have to burn down the whole block?" asked one resident. Another said: "They don't bring a solution to the problem. They inflame it by using these kinds of weapons."

The police came to the neighbourhood after repeated complaints from neighbours of violence, squalor, rats, garbage and late night screaming and yelling. They were also especially alert to the group because of its violent background. The siege started to get out of hand when Move allegedly opened fire on police officers.

Yesterday, however, as the police to remove the cult, may have been regretting their action yesterday as they looked at the smouldering ruins of their homes. "It's ridiculous. Why did they have to burn down the whole block?" asked one resident. Another said: "They don't bring a solution to the problem. They inflame it by using these kinds of weapons."

The police came to the neighbourhood after repeated complaints from neighbours of violence, squalor, rats, garbage and late night screaming and yelling. They were also especially alert to the group because of its violent background. The siege started to get out of hand when Move allegedly opened fire on police officers.

Yesterday, however, as the police to remove the cult, may have been regretting their action yesterday as they looked at the smouldering ruins of their homes. "It's ridiculous. Why did they have to burn down the whole block?" asked one resident. Another said: "They don't bring a solution to the problem. They inflame it by using these kinds of weapons."

The police came to the neighbourhood after repeated complaints from neighbours of violence, squalor, rats, garbage and late night screaming and yelling. They were also especially alert to the group because of its violent background. The siege started to get out of hand when Move allegedly opened fire on police officers.

Yesterday, however, as the police to remove the cult, may have been regretting their action yesterday as they looked at the smouldering ruins of their homes. "It's ridiculous. Why did they have to burn down the whole block?" asked one resident. Another said: "They don't bring a solution to the problem. They inflame it by using these kinds of weapons."

Asbestos dump clearance condemned

By Jean Stead, Scottish Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence announced yesterday that it is moving part of Britain's biggest asbestos dump so that building work can begin at the Trident base at Faslane on the Clyde.

About 3,000 cubic metres of asbestos are being moved in 400 lorries and ships in the next eight weeks from the yard adjoining the submarine base so that jetties can be rebuilt to accommodate surface frigates and mine-hunters.

The 62-acre site contains 100,000 cubic metres of dangerous blue, white and brown asbestos from ships broken up after the war.

The plan was described last night as "a bloody outrage" by Mr Charles Gray, deputy leader of Strathclyde regional council.

"They are prepared to take this dangerous stuff over about 40 miles of road through our villages and townships around Glasgow. We shall do everything in our power to stop it," he said.

Dumbarton District Council is planning legal action to stop the transport of asbestos.

The site clearance marks the first stage of a construction programme for Trident.

Asbestos would be under the direction of the Government's Property Services Agency.

Some asbestos will be taken in bags from Faslane to Greenock, across the Clyde, and by road to Glenboig.

A spokesman at Faslane said a special safety consultancy would monitor the operation and the Dumbarton environmental health officer would have access to the site.

Safe bagging and burial of asbestos would be under the direction of the Government's Property Services Agency.

Some asbestos will be taken in bags from Faslane to Greenock, across the Clyde, and by road to Glenboig.

A spokesman at Faslane said a special safety consultancy would monitor the operation and the Dumbarton environmental health officer would have access to the site.

Safe bagging and burial of asbestos would be under the direction of the Government's Property Services Agency.

Some asbestos will be taken in bags from Faslane to Greenock, across the Clyde, and by road to Glenboig.

A spokesman at Faslane said a special safety consultancy would monitor the operation and the Dumbarton environmental health officer would have access to the site.

Safe bagging and burial of asbestos would be under the direction of the Government's Property Services Agency.

Some asbestos will be taken in bags from Faslane to Greenock, across the Clyde, and by road to Glenboig.

A spokesman at Faslane said a special safety consultancy would monitor the operation and the Dumbarton environmental health officer would have access to the site.

Safe bagging and burial of asbestos would be under the direction of the Government's Property Services Agency.

Some asbestos will be taken in bags from Faslane to Greenock, across the Clyde, and by road to Glenboig.

A spokesman at Faslane said a special safety consultancy would monitor the operation and the Dumbarton environmental health officer would have access to the site.

Safe bagging and burial of asbestos would be under the direction of the Government's Property Services Agency.

Some asbestos will be taken in bags from Faslane to Greenock, across the Clyde, and by road to Glenboig.

A spokesman at Faslane said a special safety consultancy would monitor the operation and the Dumbarton environmental health officer would have access to the site.

Abortion risk for medical trials women

By Andrew Vettesh, Medical Correspondent

Up to 4,000 pregnant women are to run a higher risk of spontaneous abortion in a trial for a new method of prenatal diagnosis aimed at identifying congenital defects.

The tests, announced by the Medical Research Council yesterday, are intended to examine the safety of a technique called chorion villus sampling (CVS). Doctors in 20 UK hospitals, as well as some on the Continent will compare the new method with the conventional test for congenital defects, amniocentesis.

Women volunteering will not be told which test they are being given and the majority will be in their late thirties and early forties and most at risk of having babies suffering from Down's syndrome.

On the face of it, CVS is a great advance. It involves removing a tiny piece of the placenta at about nine or 10 weeks of pregnancy and examining the cells to spot defects such as Down's syndrome, muscular dystrophy and sickle cell disease. The mother may then be reassured that her baby is well — or if it is not, given the option of termination before the 12th week of pregnancy.

Amniocentesis is not usually performed until around 19 weeks of pregnancy. Some of the amniotic fluid surrounding the baby is removed, the cells are isolated, cultured and analysed to spot defects. If the news is bad the mother will not have the option of termination until the fetus is around 20 weeks old. Abortion at that stage is substantially more traumatic.

CVS carries a higher risk of causing a spontaneous abortion — between 2 and 5 per cent compared with 1 per cent for amniocentesis. To collect cells off the tiny hair-like projections from the placenta (chorion villi), a cannula is inserted into the vagina, and a tube is passed into the uterus. The doctor guides the tube with the help of an ultrasound-generated picture, and sucks up a minute amount of matter.

The process might expose the baby to infection, said Dr Iain Chalmers, director of the Department of Health and Social Security's perinatal epidemiology unit at Oxford and co-ordinator of the research council trial.

"The mother will be told it is an experimental procedure before she volunteers," said the working party's chairman, Dr Thomas Meade. "Doctors will explain the risks," the council's secretary, Sir James Gowans added.

Mothers with previous abnormal pregnancies will generally be able to opt for CVS but many centres are without the necessary facilities for all. The council argues that in these circumstances it is only fair to allocate the two types of test at random, this also being more valid scientifically.

There is concern at the amount of information women will be given before they volunteer. The Maternity Alliance said: "The only choice a woman will have is whether she wants to enter the trial, so she must be clearly informed of the benefits and risks of both CVS and amniocentesis."

"Women having babies in their late thirties find it difficult to decide whether to have amniocentesis — this trial will make that decision even more difficult."

Volunteers' law sought, page 4

£3.3m estate

Sir William Lyons, founder of Jaguar cars, who died in February, aged 83, left an estate valued at £2,417,111 gross, £2,358,278 net. Most of it was left to his widow.

Volunteers' law sought, page 4

£3.3m estate

Sir William Lyons, founder of Jaguar cars, who died in February, aged 83, left an estate valued at £2,417,111 gross, £2,358,278 net. Most of it was left to his widow.

Volunteers' law sought, page 4

£3.3m estate

Sir William Lyons, founder of Jaguar cars, who died in February, aged 83, left an estate valued at £2,417,111 gross, £2,358,278 net. Most of it was left to his widow.

Volunteers' law sought, page 4

£3.3m estate

Sir William Lyons, founder of Jaguar cars, who died in February, aged 83, left an estate valued at £2,417,111 gross, £2,358,278 net. Most of it was left to his widow.

Volunteers' law sought, page 4

£3.3m estate

Sir William Lyons, founder of Jaguar cars, who died in February, aged 83, left an estate valued at £2,417,111 gross, £2,358,278 net. Most of it was left to his widow.

Volunteers' law sought, page 4

£3.3m estate

Sir William Lyons, founder of Jaguar cars, who died in February, aged 83, left an estate valued at £2,417,111 gross, £2,358,278 net. Most of it was left to his widow.

Volunteers' law sought, page 4

Younger announces details of the £50 million package

Scottish rates relief bill to get swift passage

By Colin Brown and Jean Stead

The Government's £50 million package to defuse the row in Scotland about heavy increases in rates demands was announced in the House of Commons yesterday by Mr George Younger, the Scottish Secretary.

A bill providing about £40 million in commercial rates relief and £10 million for domestic ratepayers will be rushed through the Commons before the summer.

The Opposition generally welcomed the announcement, but did not spare Mr Younger some criticism for producing the money to avoid a confrontation with Tory supporters at last week's party conference in Perth.

The shadow Scottish secretary, Mr Donald Dewar, said that the Opposition would want a firm commitment in principle that the aid for the ratepayers hit by this year's rating revaluation would continue for the next five years.

Mr Younger, who has won a fierce cabinet battle with the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, to secure the money, was unable to give more than a nod and a wink towards Mr Dewar's demand. He said his office would look at the matter when it came to make the rate support grants assessment in the autumn.

Ratepayers in Scotland will have to wait for the extra relief for this year's rates. The Scottish Office, as well as drafting the bill and the parliamentary Order carrying much of the detail, is considering issuing a simplified claim form to ratepayers.

Mr Younger said in his Commons statement that the relief would be available to those whose rateable value had been increased threefold on the 1984 valuation. It would be common to domestic and commercial ratepayers, but would be subject to a ceiling to ensure that the maximum help was given to smaller businesses.

The Treasury will strongly resist any attempt to keep this machinery for rating relief in existence beyond next year.

But Scottish ministers said privately last night that they believed once the mechanism was in place, it would be used again.

The announcement was received with relief in Scotland, but also with a warning that Mr Younger must continue to do battle with the Treasury if he is to count on Tory support in the forthcoming regional elections next year.

Though the £10 million in domestic rates relief came as a surprise, Mr Younger said that it had always been intended to give this extra sum. Details had not been released at the Tory conference in Perth because of the necessity to tell Parliament first.

One of the leaders of the Tory revolt against rate rises, Councillor Brian Meek, convenor of the Lothian Regional Council, said: "I think it is marvellous. He said that it would be politically unrealistic not to repeat the financial help next year."

A warning that it might be possible for people to pick up the £10,000 maximum relief several times from branches of their businesses was given by Mr Bill Anderson, the Scottish secretary of the National Association of the Self-Employed and Small Businesses. Otherwise, he said, "the package was everything we had hoped for."

Donald Dewar: demands future aid

Advice bureau told not to refuse racists help

By Stephen Cook

The Citizens' Advice Bureau in Newham, east London, risks expulsion from the national association for the bureau if it refuses advice to people who have extreme racial views or are involved in racial harassment.

The Newham CAB, in common with the Labour Party and 10 other advice and community groups in the area, has adopted a policy of backing staff who refuse to help people considered to be active racists.

The director of the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, Mrs Elizabeth Filkin, said yesterday that a bureau which went against the national open-door policy and refused help to a client risked losing its membership of the association.

"We wouldn't do that lightly and would make great efforts to solve the problem by other means," she said. "Newham have taken a local decision, based on local knowledge, that certain political groups are trying to do harm to the CAB."

Advice centres in Newham say that racial attacks on the large Bengali community there have been increasing. The question of whether to refuse advice arose after the borough council had evicted a white family from their council home for harassing Asian neighbours.

Mr Andrew Balchin, of Newham Rights Centre, said the evicted family had problems with welfare benefits and went to the CAB at the suggestion of National Front activists. The CAB was closed, and the family got advice from Iford CAB instead.

He said that after the staff of the advice agencies had discussed the matter, their unions and management committees agreed to support them if they refused advice to "known racists or people who expressed extreme racist views."

However, the east London area committee of 23 CABs decided that although it sympathised with Newham's position the open door policy was of overriding importance. It decided to ask the national association to change the rules.

Mr Balchin said the change of policy had been essential to preserve the confidence of black and Asian clients. "We are expecting more of these cases since Newham is planning to evict other families for racial harassment and some other boroughs are to follow suit."

Ms Filkin said there was no prospect of the open door rules being changed.

But Scottish ministers said privately last night that they believed once the mechanism was in place, it would be used again.

The announcement was received with relief in Scotland, but also with a warning that Mr Younger must continue to do battle with the Treasury if he is to count on Tory support in the forthcoming regional elections next year.

Though the £10 million in domestic rates relief came as a surprise, Mr Younger said that it had always been intended to give this extra sum. Details had not been released at the Tory conference in Perth because of the necessity to tell Parliament first.

One of the leaders of the Tory revolt against rate rises, Councillor Brian Meek, convenor of the Lothian Regional Council, said: "I think it is marvellous. He said that it would be politically unrealistic not to repeat the financial help next year."

A warning that it might be possible for people to pick up the £10,000 maximum relief several times from branches of their businesses was given by Mr Bill Anderson, the Scottish secretary of the National Association of the Self-Employed and Small Businesses. Otherwise, he said, "the package was everything we had hoped for."

Donald Dewar: demands future aid

Advice bureau told not to refuse racists help

By Stephen Cook

The Citizens' Advice Bureau in Newham, east London, risks expulsion from the national association for the bureau if it refuses advice to people who have extreme racial views or are involved in racial harassment.

The Newham CAB, in common with the Labour Party and 10 other advice and community groups in the area, has adopted a policy of backing staff who refuse to help people considered to be active racists.

The director of the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, Mrs Elizabeth Filkin, said yesterday that a bureau which went against the national open-door policy and refused help to a client risked losing its membership of the association.

"We wouldn't do that lightly and would make great efforts to solve the problem by other means," she said. "Newham have taken a local decision, based on local knowledge, that certain political groups are trying to do harm to the CAB."

Advice centres in Newham say that racial attacks on the large Bengali community there have been increasing. The question of whether to refuse advice arose after the borough council had evicted a white family from their council home for harassing Asian neighbours.

Mr Andrew Balchin, of Newham Rights Centre, said the evicted family had problems with welfare benefits and went to the CAB at the suggestion of National Front activists. The CAB was closed, and the family got advice from Iford CAB instead.

He said that after the